The CRISIS

Vol. 12—No. 2 JUNE, 1916 Whole No. 68

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Publisher's Chat

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A RECORD OF THE DARKER RACES

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE, AT 70 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

Conducted by

W. E. BURGHARDT DU BOIS
AUGUSTUS GRANVILLE DILL, Business Manager

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Published monthly at 70 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., for April 1, 1916.

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County of New York }

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared A. G. Dill, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of THE CRISIS, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the act of August 24, 1912, embodied in Section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations:

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Sworn to and subscribed before me this 31st day of March, 1916.

EDWARD J. BREDEN, *Notary Public.*

(My commission expires March 30, 1918.)

Kings County No. 81. New York County No. 176. New York Register No. 8180.

THE CRISIS

Vol. 12—No. 2 JUNE, 1916 Whole No. 68

Along the Color Line

MUSIC AND ART

THE Royal Choral Society, under the direction of Sir Frederick Bridge, gave Coleridge-Taylor's "Hiawatha" in London, Eng., April 1. On the same date the cantata was performed by the Birmingham Choral Union in Birmingham, Eng.

¶ The Washington Concert Orchestra, Mr. Roy W. Tibbs, conductor, gave its third annual concert at the Howard Theatre, Washington, D. C., April 28. The soloists assisting were Miss Maude J. Roberts, soprano, and Miss Revella Hughes, pianist. The Howard University Glee Club added numbers to the program.

¶ A concert was given by the Thomas Howard Quintette at the Athletic Club in Columbus, O., April 9. The program included pieces by Leoncavello, Mendelssohn, Tschaikovsky, Nicolai, Thomas and Grieg. Miss Martha Steward, pianist, played the Paganini Liszt "Campanella," and Mr. George Smith, violinist, gave the Maud Powell arrangement of Coleridge-Taylor's "Deep River."

¶ Mr. Thomas Howard is the manager of the Ninth Ohio National Guard Band of Columbus, an organization which numbers thirty musicians. This is a band of unusual excellence and is active in the music life of the state.

¶ The piano music for the comic opera, "On with the Dance," recently given at the Majestic Theatre, Buffalo, N. Y., under the auspices of the Jewish Young Men's Christian Association, was arranged by Miss Sarah May Talbert, graduate of the New England Conservatory of Music, class of 1915.

¶ The choral society of Seldon Institute, Brunswick, Ga., presented the cantata, "Jeptha and His Daughter," at the Grand Opera House, April 11.

¶ Mr. James Weldon Johnson, one of the two colored members of the Society of Composers, Authors and Songwriters, was numbered among the speakers at a dinner recently given by the society in New York. The guest of honor was Irvin Cobb, novelist and war correspondent. Mr. J. Rosamond Johnson is the other Negro member.

¶ Five songs from Laurence Hope's "Indian Love Lyrics," set to music by Harry T. Burleigh, were the novelties on a program lately presented by the popular Irish tenor, John McCormack, at Carnegie Hall, New York. *Musical America* says of the songs: "The setting for the Laurence Hope lyrics has been admirably done. Mr. Burleigh has handled cleverly the exotic Eastern themes used in the five songs, and his gift of melody is strikingly apparent in the 'Jungle Flower.'"

¶ The Music Lovers Club of Fort Smith, Ark., gave a recital April 3 for the benefit of the Hospital Guild.

¶ "The Spy of Gettysburg," a war drama, was given in the chapel of Virginia Union University, Richmond, Va., March 24. A large audience witnessed the play.

¶ The Suburban Choral Class of Woburn, Mass., under the direction of Miss Daisy Allen, gave an interesting musicale at St. John's Baptist Church.

¶ At Metropolitan A. M. E. Church, Washington, D. C., Mme. E. Azalia Hackley conducted a very successful folk song festival under the general supervision of the Bethel Literary and Historical Association of that city. Beside the chorus of two hundred, Mr. J. Rosamond Johnson sang, and selections were rendered by a chorus of students from M Street High School under the direction of Miss Mary L. Europe.

¶ The Colored Women's Quilting Club of Marked Tree, Ark., held its first annual ex-

hibition in March. More than one hundred quilts were exhibited.

¶ The first issue of the *Poetry Review*, under the editorship of William Stanley Braithwaite, has made its appearance in Boston, Mass.

¶ Mr. William Stanley Braithwaite has been lecturing and reading in Washington, D. C.

¶ At the Kraushaar gallery in New York City, George Luks, the artist, has been exhibiting pictures. The New York *Evening Post* said: "In the outer room is one of the paintings, perhaps the best one, 'The Tango Artist.' It is a Negro's portrait, the very black head shown against a light but warm background. This is one of the finest things Mr. Luks has even shown."

GENERAL

A MOVEMENT to organize a National Association of Colored Music Teachers in the United States has been started by Clarence Cameron White, the violinist.

¶ The "Whirl of Life," a motion picture written by Vernon Castle depicting the romantic life of himself and Mrs. Castle, has many colored characters in it. It is pleasing to note that these characters are not caricatures.

¶ The part of the memorial fund for Booker T. Washington which is being raised among colored people has enlisted the services of many prominent persons all over the country.

¶ Six hundred white employees of the New York Central Railroad, in New York City, who went on strike, have been replaced by Negroes, as baggage handlers, car cleaners and elevator men. The positions have been made permanent and some promotions have been promised.

¶ The Canadian Pacific Railroad has decided to use Negroes as cooks and waiters. They have two crews in operation on a run between Montreal and Quebec.

¶ Miss Ida Vera Simonton, a Suffrage worker and African explorer, is organizing women of America into Defense Leagues. There will be no discrimination on account of color, race or creed in this movement, and a campaign among Negro women of the country is soon to be conducted.

¶ The General Alumni Association of Howard University, Washington, D. C., has just published the Alumni Number of the University Record. The Alumni Reunion will take place June 7 of this year, and the Semi-Centennial Celebration March 2, 1917.

¶ At the first session of the Garage Owners' Association of Michigan a request for attendance was proffered by Mr. Powell, a Negro, of the Standard Repair Shop at Bay City. Permission to attend was given and it was suggested that if the visitor desired to put in an application for membership that it be considered on the same basis as any other application, decision to be made on the value of the man, not the color of the applicant.

¶ By self denial the seven little German girls of the Reiss family, now in Canada, announce that they will each adopt a Negro child in Africa. Each child will receive a baptismal offering of five dollars.

¶ The fund left by Mrs. Caroline Donovan in favor of the American Colonization Society for the transportation to Liberia of Negroes in the United States is being disputed by the heirs-at-law of Mrs. Donovan.

¶ Methodists who sought to have Negro bishops provided for work among Negroes failed to receive the sanction of the annual conferences of the Methodist Episcopal church by a 4,921 to 3,461 vote.

¶ Dr. R. R. Wright, Jr., has offered two gold medal prizes; the first to the person who composes the best centennial ode of African Methodism, and the second to the Sunday School or Allen League member who writes the best essay on Richard Allen. The judges will consist of one bishop, one literary critic or magazine editor, and two teachers of English.

PERSONAL

MRS. ALICE MOORE DUNBAR, of Wilmington, Del., widow of the late Paul Lawrence Dunbar, and Mr. Robert J. Nelson, of Harrisburg, Pa., were married in Wilmington, April 20. The Rev. Dr. Solomon Porter Hood officiated.

¶ The Honorable John R. Lynch has been speaking in Cleveland, O.

¶ Mrs. Celia M. Stuart, of Indianapolis, Ind., has been appointed a stenographer in the Marion County Court House.

¶ Wayne W. Cox, cashier and manager of the only Negro bank in Mississippi that could be admitted under the Guarantee Law, died at Vossburg, Stafford Wells, April 10, at the age of fifty-two. His estate is valued at $80,000. A wife and one child survive him.

¶ Louis Merriam, a Negro born when George Washington was president of the United States, died in Kansas City, March 12. He was the oldest man on the United States pension rolls, and claimed to have substantiated the fact that he was born one hundred and twenty-one years ago at Sopher plantation in Virginia.

¶ St. Luke's Hospital, Columbia, S. C., is doubtless the only institution of its kind in the United States owned by a colored woman physician. Dr. Matilda Evans employs twelve men and women regularly, and has recently secured and moved into larger quarters.

¶ Benjamin Carter, eighty-four years old, died at Elgin, Ill., April 21. He established the first blacksmith shop in the county and made a name for himself by manufacturing the Ben Carter bridle bits which became famous all over the country and were shipped to Europe.

¶ Lincoln Washington, ninety-four years old, extinguished a burning bridge near Lufkin, Tex., April 21, and then flagged a passenger train, averting a wreck. A purse was made up by the passengers and given him, and the railroad officials have reported his act of bravery to the Carnegie Hero Fund.

¶ Mr. Daniel Lucas, aged sixty-seven, proprietor of the Lucas Barber Shop and Turkish Bath House in Sedalia, Mo., is dead. He was the only colored man in business on Main street, and his establishment is valued at $50,000.

¶ S. B. Wheat has been elected alderman from the Second Ward in East St. Louis, Ill., defeating a white candidate by a 300 to 94 vote.

¶ The Honorable W. H. Hunt, consul at St. Etienne, France, was made president of the Day of Sports for the benefit of the soldiers, which occurred at St. Etienne, March 26. The prefect, the mayor and the general commanding there were "Presidents d'Honneur."

¶ Major Allen won the presidency of his class in a New Haven, Conn., high school, defeating a white classmate by a 108 to 100 ballot.

¶ Mrs. C. J. Bolden has been appointed health inspector for the colored schools of Newport News, Va.

¶ Joe Hunter, of Gulfport, Miss., a former employee of the Ingram Day Lumber Company, has been awarded $1,500 damages. His leg was mashed by a falling log.

¶ The will of the late Saunders P. Jones bequeathed five hundred dollars each to Mrs. Julia Jackson and Albert Douglass, old family servants.

¶ Mr. J. H. Battles, a widely known railroad man, died recently in New York. He was on the Twentieth Century Limited since the train was first put in service.

¶ Miss Lillian Dodson, of the Girls' High School in Brooklyn, N. Y., was one of eighty-five pupils, and the only colored one, to go on an educational tour to Washington, D. C., recently.

¶ R. D. Taborn, of Kalamazoo, Mich., has been made collector of customs for that port. Three white Democratic candidates were seeking the position, but Taborn won through civil service examination.

¶ Peter W. Downing, born in New York City in 1832, died April 1, in Brooklyn, N. Y. He was proprietor of a restaurant in the old Custom House on Wall street for about twenty years.

¶ Secretary Bundy, of the American Legation at Monrovia, Liberia, has been granted a leave of absence by the State Department.

¶ Miss Mary V. R. Dickerson, a teacher in the public schools of Washington, D. C., for more than twenty years, died recently at Xenia, O.

¶ Mrs. Ella Ernest, a teacher in the Primary Department of the Frederick Douglass School in Indianapolis, Ind., has been granted a scholarship by the Indianapolis school commissioners for study in the Indiana Normal School at Terre Haute.

¶ Miss Johanna P. Moore, founder of *Fireside Schools and Hope*, and a loyal friend of the Negro, died recently in Nashville, Tenn. She was born in Clarion county, Pa., in 1833.

¶ A. J. Drexel, a banker, of Philadelphia, Pa., has provided Miss Marion Price, a cook in his employ for more than fifty years, with a home to live in for the rest of her life, two servants and a monthly allowance.

¶ Thomas P. Williams, the only 33° Mason in Atlantic City, and probably the oldest in New Jersey, is dead in his seventy-first year.

¶ Miss Susie M. Taylor has returned to the States from Liberia, where she has worked as a missionary for four years

NEGRO TROOPS IN MEXICO

under the Foreign Mission Board of the National Baptist Convention.

¶ Harry Williams, the only colored member of the Boy Scouts in Homestead, Pa., won five medals in the round-up of the Boy Scouts of America. He was first in boxing and wrestling, second in the fifty-yard dash and third in first aid and basketball relay.

¶ Mr. and Mrs. Malone, of St. Louis, Mo., donated $5,000 to the Y. M. C. A. campaign in that city.

¶ Miss Julia S. Tutwiler, active in educational work throughout Alabama for many years, died at Birmingham, March 24. She was born in 1841 at Greene Spring, Ala.

¶ Thirty women and children were carried to safety by Peter Goodwin, a Negro elevator operator in an apartment house in Dobbs Ferry, N. Y., when fire broke out in a dumbwaiter shaft.

¶ J. T. Edward, a Pullman porter, is reported by the hospital head at Elyria, O., as having saved nine lives in a recent wreck of the New York Central trains, by giving his services as a doctor. His act of heroism is under advisement by the company.

¶ Colored employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, at Washington, D. C., presented Captain William T. Meredith, chief of the bureau for two terms, with a gold-headed cane on his eighty-first birthday.

¶ Rev. J. H. Knowles, pastor of Mount Moriah Baptist church in Cairo, Ill., for twenty-two years, is dead. He was born seventy years ago at Paris, Tenn.

¶ The famous American poet, James Whitcomb Riley, became interested in the poems written by Lieutenant R. E. S. Toomey, a Negro lawyer of Miami, Fla., and invited him to read them before a few of his select friends.

¶ First-Lieutenant John A. Green, who has been on duty with the 25th United States Infantry on the Mexican border, has been appointed military attache to the American Legation at Monrovia, Liberia, which post had been held until recently by Major

Charles Young who is now in Mexico with the famous Tenth Cavalry.

¶ A. W. Ricks, who for six years has been general field agent for the Manassas Industrial School at Manassas, Va., has resigned.

¶ Captain Allen W. Washington will succeed Major R. R. Moton as commandant of cadets at Hampton Institute in Virginia.

¶ J. C. Evans, a prominent Negro attorney of Okmulgee, Okla., won a sensational divorce suit involving more than $50,000 for a wealthy white client.

¶ Arthur F. Whitin, of Whitinsville, Mass., has sent to the Booker T. Washington Memorial Fund a contribution of five hundred dollars from the savings of the late Mary Strater, a former slave, who wished her savings to be given to aid in improving the condition of her race in the South.

¶ James Duncan, of Gary, Ind., and a porter at the Union Station, has been awarded a Carnegie Hero Medal. He rescued a white man from the bottom of a metal pit in the Carbon Steel Company at Pittsburgh, Pa., three years ago.

¶ The address delivered by Dr. J. E. Mason on Harriett Tubman has been published for the benefit of the Tubman Home at Auburn, N. Y.

INDUSTRY

THE Atlanta Mutual Insurance Company of Atlanta, Ga., has opened business in Arkansas.

¶ Forty race men from Louisville, Ky., have gone to Barberton, O., to work in the Columbia Chemical Company, and one hundred more will go to work for the Pittsburgh Valve Company. The Chemical Company has erected houses for these employees, and they are the first Negroes to live in Barberton.

¶ The stockholders of the Standard Loan and Realty Company have held a meeting for the purpose of receiving a charter of incorporation granted by the state of Georgia.

¶ The *Courier*, a Negro weekly, of Pittsburgh, Pa., has passed its seventh birthday. It is an eight-page paper and employs seven workers.

¶ The *Insurance Critic* issue for February 10th carried an article on "Insurance, a Vocation," by George W. Blount, a colored man.

¶ The Palatine Waiters Association, a colored organization of Newburgh, N. Y., has purchased No. 193 Chambers street of that city to accommodate Negro tenants. John H. Hicks is president.

¶ The North Carolina Mutual and Provident Association, of Durham, has started business in the District of Columbia. The gross assets of this company are nearly $200,000 with $5,000,000 worth of insurance in force.

¶ The West Kentucky Coal Company employs seven hundred Negro men in its mines.

NORTH ATLANTIC

THE Smart Set Athletic Club, of Brooklyn, N. Y., held one of the largest athletic meets in Greater New York. Howard P. Drew broke the world's record for ninety yards. Twenty events were listed on the program, and fully six thousand people attended.

¶ A colored regiment has been organized in Philadelphia, Pa., and more than five hundred young colored men have enlisted.

¶ An ordinance has been passed giving Atlantic City, N. J., its first Negro manned fire station.

¶ Downingtown School, at Downingtown, Pa., which suffered recently by fire, has received financial aid so as to enable it to restore Pennsylvania Hall and begin two other halls. The governor of the state will deliver the commencement address. Dr. William A. Creditt is principal.

¶ A large building named Gregory Hall, after its late principal, has been dedicated at Bordentown, N. J.

SOUTH ATLANTIC

EIGHT Negro citizens, representing the Macon, Ga., Business and Civic League, appeared recently before the Board of Education presenting a petition whereby congestion in Negro schools might be relieved, and colored children provided with an industrial education.

¶ A second Atlanta segregation ordinance, making it unlawful for Negroes to move into city blocks in which the majority of residents are white, and carrying a like provision against whites, was signed by Mayor Woodward April 12.

¶ A playground for colored children has been opened in Wilmington, N. C.

¶ The colored people of Hanover county, Va., are raising money to extend the school

term two months. They are given only five months by the County School Board. The white schools have a term of nine months.

¶ Fire destroyed the Missionary Baptist church in Milton, one of the oldest church buildings in Florida. The church was not insured and the loss is estimated at between $2,000 and $2,500.

¶ At Washington, D. C., several citizens have started a movement to secure the appointment of at least one colored person to the examining boards of medicine, pharmacy, law, dentistry, embalming and trained nursing.

¶ The English Department of Howard University is presenting a series of talks on Negro literature at Library Hall.

¶ Seven hundred students of Howard University went on strike recently because they were suspended for using the gymnasium for dancing on "Frivolity Day." Students and deans have since come to an understanding and the work of the university has been resumed.

¶ Colored teachers of Raleigh, N. C., raised during February $1,056.33 for school improvements, and organized twenty-nine moonlight schools.

¶ Condemnation proceedings have been started to acquire land for a park for Negroes in Jackson Ward, Richmond, Va.

NORTH CENTRAL

THE International Conference of Knights Templar of the United States and Canada, and Shriners, will meet in Chicago, August 21 to 25.

¶ Dr. C. H. Phillips and Hutchins Inge, Negroes, of St. Louis, Mo., have been elected alternates to the National Republican convention in Chicago in June. They will go uninstructed.

SOUTH CENTRAL

THE Association of Southern Church Colleges has been formed in Birmingham, Ala., with the purpose of trying to reduce the number of lynchings in the South.

¶ The recent fire in Nashville, Tenn., brought out an extraordinary and excellent case of co-operation between white and colored people. Three hundred and twenty-one white families and three hundred and twenty-four Negro families were helped. The Department of Social Science of Fisk University and students of other institutions worked in cordial co-operation with the white staff. Printed blanks and records were used and excellent results obtained.

¶ The State Medical Association of Oklahoma and the Tri-State Medical Associations of Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma, convened in joint session at Muskogee, Okla., May 10, 11, 12.

¶ More than twelve hundred volumes have been donated to the Gibbons High School at Paris, Tex., which was recently burned.

¶ A new brick school for colored children, named for the late Joseph H. Crawford, has been dedicated at Houston, Tex.

¶ Negroes of Bessemer, Ala., are making an effort to raise $1,000 toward a community hall. The Bessemer Soil Pipe Company will give the land and one dollar for every two dollars raised.

¶ Leading colored people of Mobile, Ala., have shown much public spirit in providing at their own expense night school facilities where over four hundred illiterates have been taught to read.

¶ The colored people of Dallas, Tex., are energetically opposing the race segregation ordinance recently passed.

¶ Serious accusations have been brought against Mr. John Marquess, recently elected to the presidency of Langston University in Oklahoma. His moral conduct as principal of the Sumner High School in Kansas City was the subject of energetic attack on the part of numbers of citizens, who alleged that he was not fit to be principal of the school.

¶ Nearly one thousand Negroes gathered at Victoria, Tex., for the meeting of the colored farmers of Victoria and the Southwest Colored School Teachers' Association.

¶ S. W. Green, of East Carroll Parish, and J. W. Cooke have been elected alternates from Louisiana to the National Republican Convention in Chicago in June. The delegation goes uninstructed.

¶ Two companies of the 24th Infantry have been removed from Del Rio, Tex., where they refused to be "Jim Crowed" in the uniforms of Uncle Sam, and stationed at Fort Bliss. These are the first colored soldiers to be stationed at this fort.

¶ The first honor camp for Negro prisoners has been established in Tennessee.

¶ The City Board of Health in Shreveport, La., has offered prizes of fifty dollars in cash to the Negro church or other organ-

ization having the largest percentage of members whose homes are screened against flies and mosquitoes, and to the one having the largest number of screens installed in 1916. Prizes are offered also to members of such organizations who have their homes in the most sanitary condition and the best-kept front and back yards.

¶ Williams and Piron, colored composers, of New Orleans, La., have had some of their work recorded by the Columbia Phonograph Company, and a special concert of the records was given in one of the largest stores in New Orleans.

FOREIGN

NATIVE Africans have curiously poetical figures of speech. The Mpongwes call thunder the "sky gun"; morning they call "day's child". The Zulus call twilight the "eye lashes of the sun". An African who came to America was shown some ice, which he had not seen before, and he called it "water fast asleep". When asked to give a name to a railroad car, he said: "Him be one thunder mill".

¶ Rev. Francis O'Rourke, of the Irish province of the Lyons African Missions Society, will give a series of illustrated lectures in the archdiocese of New York in aid of the West African missions.

¶ A crisis has been developed in Haiti by the action of President Dartiguenave in dissolving the senate and creating a council of the government to draft a new constitution in conformity with the latest treaty between the United States and Haiti.

GHETTO

MRS. V. BOONE, who went as a delegate from the Colored Parent and Teachers' Association of Sparta, Ga., to attend the State Parent Teachers' Association was refused admission on account of her race.

¶ George Hardy, a Negro, thirty-nine years old, who has served twenty-three years in the Atlanta, Ga., penitentiary for beating a white man who died as a result, has been ordered released by President Wilson.

¶ American citizenship was denied Takao Ozawa, a Japanese, in a test case in Honolulu. The court ruled that Japanese are Mongolians, and that the word "white" does not include the Mongolian race.

¶ Miss Jane R. Bosfield, the colored stenographer who was dismissed from the Medfield State Hospital in Massachusetts because of her race, has been ordered reinstated at once by Governor McCall and members of the Executive Council.

¶ The appearance of the Ziegfield Follies at the Academy Theatre in Richmond, Va., was cancelled because it was not thought wise to have Bert Williams, the colored comedian, appear with a company otherwise made up of white actors and actresses.

¶ Three nuns from St. Joseph's Convent in St. Augustine, Fla., have been placed under technical arrest because of the new state law making it illegal for white persons to teach Negroes.

¶ A Negro priest was celebrant of the mass, while the deacon and sub-deacon were white priests, at the funeral, in New Orleans, of a priest who had belonged to an old Louisiana family and who had devoted his life to work among colored Catholics.

¶ The sign "No colored people served at the tables" in the Bungalow confectionery, in Portland, Ore., has been ordered removed by Mayor Albee.

¶ Henry Young, a colored minister in Carlisle, Pa., claims that the superintendent of schools and the School Board "drew the color line," and would not let his son attend school at the Lamberton Building. The board has denied the charge.

¶ George Wells Parker reports from Omaha, Neb., that *Collier's Weekly* wants neither colored solicitors nor subscribers.

¶ William Carter, a colored boy in Richmond, Va., seeing his brother chased by fifteen white sailors who threatened to lynch him, snatched a pistol and killed two of the mob.

¶ Lynchings since our last record:

March 31—Cedar Bluffs, Miss., Jeff Brown, hanged by mob. He was running to catch a freight train and accidentally brushed against a white girl.

April 5—St. Charles, Mo., Lafayette Chandler, shot and burned for killing a sheriff and wounding another.

April 10—Del Rio, Tex., Private John Wade, 24th Infantry, shot by state ranger.

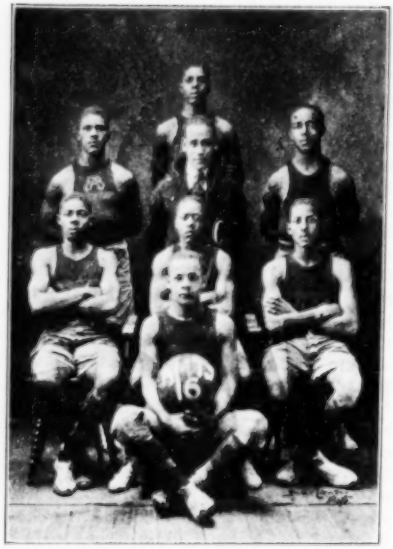
April 10—Lawton, Okla., Carl Dudley, wounding a policeman. Shot to death and body dragged through street.

THE SEASON'S BASKET BALL

By EDWIN B. HENDERSON

HAMPTON INSTITUTE basket ball team can, without successful contradiction, claim the National Championship. The lads of the Virginia school have applied brains to brawn in so telling a fashion that the city and college teams with whom they played could at no time quell the Hampton spirit, nor outwit the athletes on the court. To Coach Charles Williams must go the credit for the victory, for his quiet, gentlemanly, masterful methods of coaching have produced good results. His was a task of creating a championship machine out of a group of candidates, many of whom knew only baseball in the realm of sports, and in a field where good basket ball was not to be seen. Hampton's claim to championship lies in the record for the season, one without a defeat. Hampton defeated Armstrong Manual Training School 51 to 14, Howard University 46 to 12, St. Christopher 24 to 15, and 37 to 28, Carlisle 37 to 23, Lincoln University 44 to 20. By comparison it can be easily figured out that the Hampton team was best. The crack Monticello team was outplayed by Lincoln University, and Hampton doubled on Lincoln, which gives Hampton superiority over the Western group of teams.

The Alpha Physical Culture Club, the Incorporators, and the St. Christopher teams of New York, the Vandals of Atlantic City, the Y. M. C. A. team of Philadelphia, and



THE ARMSTRONG M. T. S. TEAM

the Armstrong team of Washington, which won the High School Championship of the P. S. A. L., were good in their localities, and Lincoln University made an excellent showing in post-season games.

Basket ball, played under regulations that govern the best amateur sport, is wielding a tremendous influence for strong, virile manhood.

THE HAMPTON INSTITUTE CHAMPIONS

Men of the Month

A PHYSICIAN — Edward J. Davis was born in Charleston, S. C., and educated at Fisk University and the Harvard Medical School. He began practice in St. Louis in 1900 and soon became superintendent of the Provident Hospital. After two years he entered the service of the United States government as physician to the Zuni Indians, where he has served for twelve and one-half years. He met at first the opposition of superstition and ignorance, and some of the whites considered his presence an outrage, but all this has been gradually overcome. Dr. Davis is a fellow of the American Geographical Society.

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A CITY COUNCILMAN — Thomas W. Fleming was born in Pennsylvania in 1874. He was educated at Meadville, Pa., and Baldwin College. He has been a barber and a lawyer, and is now city councilman from Ward Eleven, Cleveland, O., which has four-fifths of its voters white. He is a member of the Republican State Executive Committee of Ohio.

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A MINISTER — Edward H. Hunter was born in North Carolina in 1865. He was educated at Lincoln and Howard, taught public school for five years and then became a clerk in the War Department at Washington. He was afterward transferred to the General Land Office where he served fifteen years, becoming finally law examiner at $1,600 per year. Mr. Hunter entered the ministry in 1903 and has served as pastor in Washington and Norfolk, Va. He is a man of ability and character.

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A SOLDIER — George D. Powell is a retired Regimental Sergeant Major of the United States Army, having served thirty years in the 24th United States Infantry. This regiment fought against the Indians from 1881 to 1888; took part in the Spanish American War in Cuba where it lost one hundred and four men, killed and wounded, at San Juan Hill. It then went to the Philippines where it served under General Lawton. Mr. Powell was in all the battles, and won one gold, one silver and two bronze medals for marksmanship and service. He is now living in Washington, D. C.

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BUSINESS AND POLITICS — Robert R. Church, Jr., son of a widely known father, was born in Memphis, Tenn., in 1885. He was educated at Oberlin, and became president of the Solvent Savings Bank and Trust Company in Memphis in 1909. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Standard Life Insurance Company. Mr. Church was a delegate to the Republican Convention in 1912, is a member of the State Republican Executive Committee, and is making a strong fight for the political recognition of colored men.

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A BANDMASTER — Major Walter H. Loving, for fourteen years conductor of the Constabulary Band, has given up his work in the Philippines and will soon be retired from the service. His farewell concert was attended by a record breaking crowd. At the conclusion of the concert he was presented with a handsome gold watch by Judge Gilbert in behalf of the Manila community, and with a beautiful loving cup from the members of the organization. Loving's successor said, on receiving the baton, "You have accomplished a wonderful thing. Other men have directed great bands but as a rule they have been able to select the best trained musicians from which to form them. You, in great measure, have trained the individual musicians who compose your organization. It has been a unique achievement. Your name and fame are known wherever great music is heard. But more than this, you have wrought this success with a modesty which has been becoming."

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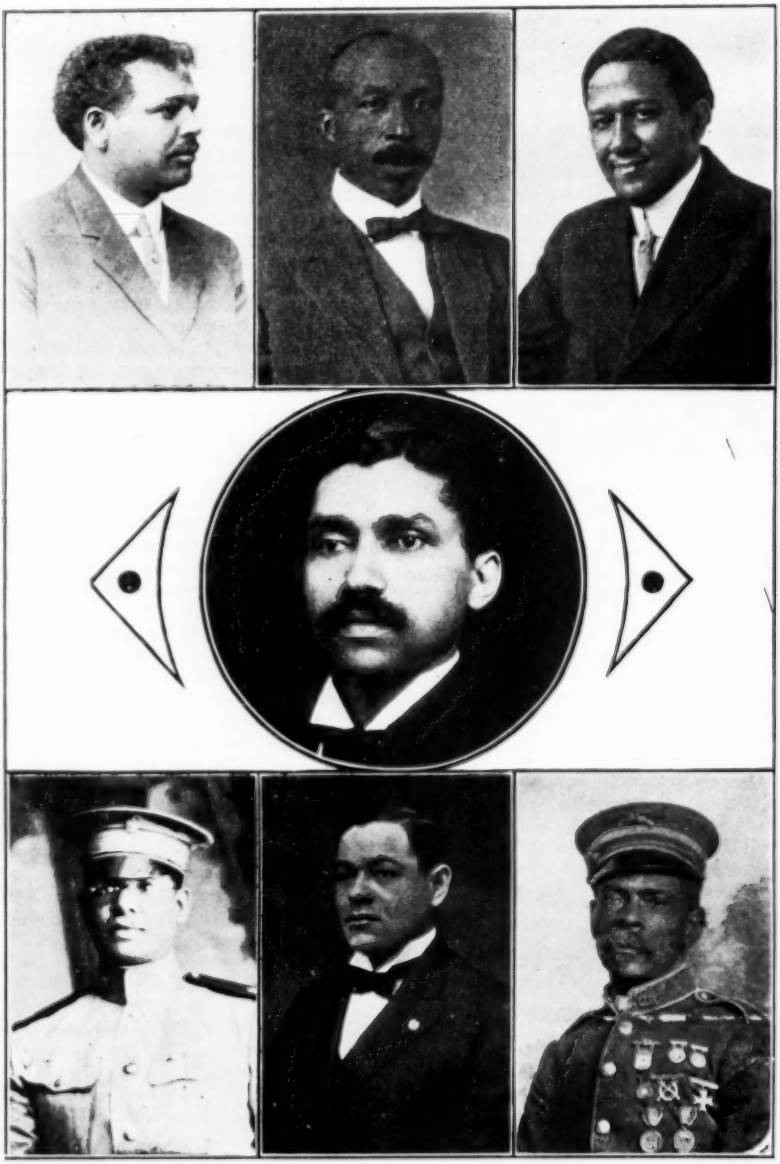
A TEACHER OF MUSIC — R. G. Jackson was born in Lexington, Ky., and received his musical education at Kansas University. He has for several years had charge of the Department of Music of Western University, at Quindaro, a colored institution; and also leads the music at Allen Chapel in Kansas City, Mo., where he has developed a fine choir. He has directed chorus work on the Pacific Coast and various parts of the West, and received much praise for the results.



R. G. JACKSON
W. H. LOVING

E. J. DAVIS
C. H. HUNTER
E. R. CHURCH, JR.

T. W. FLEMING
G. D. POWELL

The Looking Glass

LITERATURE

INTERESTING developments in Negro literature are taking place. First, there are persistent attempts at writing poetry, good, bad and indifferent. There lie on our desk seven little volumes of verse, most of them privately printed. Those by M. G. Williams, W. H. Shackleford, S. M. Means, Adolphus Johnson and E. M. Hampton call for no especial mention. Fenton Johnson's "Visions of Dusk" has bits of beauty here and there:

"I was the starlight,
I was the moonlight,
I was the sunset,
Before the dawning
Of my life."

G. M. McClellan's "Path of Dreams," written under circumstances of peculiar pathos, is conscientious work:

"Awake! Arise! Oh, men of my race,
I see our morning star,
And feel the dawn-breeze on my face
Creep inward, from afar."

Novels are coming, too: "Redder Blood," by William N. Ashley, and "The Problem," by F. G. Gilmore. Both have the usual difficulty that we are too near realities to write beautifully about them.

There are some essays: "The Black Soldier," by Mary Curtis; "The Birth of a Nation," by Isaac L. Thomas; "Plusieurs Points D'Histoire," by J. F. Geffrard, and "How It Happened," by Mrs. J. C. Horton. This last little pamphlet is a frank and interesting life story and tells how a colored woman established a library in Oklahoma.

We must not forget the second number of the *Journal of Negro History*, edited by C. G. Woodson. It is a fine volume both in appearance and content. It should be in the hands of everyone interested in the Negro race. The *A. M. E. Church Review*, under Dr. Ransom, has also become a periodical worth the reading.

Three books are studies of black people by whites: M. S. Evans, of South Africa, writes of "Black and White in the Southern States." (229 pp., Macmillan, $2.25 net.) It is a disappointing book. Mr. Evans is a white man who has accepted the segregation and injustice of South Africa and has come to America to prove his thesis. He does it to his own complete satisfaction, and while he tries to be fair, his querulousness and utter ignorance of the real American problems make his book most uninforming.

H. M. Henry, of Emory and Henry College, writes of the "Police Control of the Slave in South Carolina" in 216 pp. The book impresses one as a conscientious setting forth of the facts surrounded by a rather desperate attempt to apologize for every fact that now seems unpleasant. One statement, however, may be quoted for the information of certain persons gifted with remarkable hind-sight: "In this study of South Carolina slavery the writer has found nothing to indicate that there was any movement or any serious discussion of the advisability of abolishing slavery or devising any plan that would eventually lead to it. Apparently no anti-slavery leaders like those in Virginia or North Carolina ever flourished in South Carolina. The Quakers, who were opposed to slavery, left the state in the early part of the nineteenth century, or gave up their scruples about it. The German settlers in Orangeburg and Lexington districts sought to abstain from slavery but drifted with the current and became slaveholders. Some doubtless deprecated slavery in an academic way, and some even maintained in practice their belief that slavery was wrong. Whether there was any tendency toward agitation or public sentiment suppressed it, would be difficult to determine. There is little reason to believe that such discussion would have secured an intelligent hearing."

J. B. Earnest, of Norfolk, Va., publishes the "Religious Development of the Negro in Virginia," 233 pp. The book is rather unsystematic and therefore the more interesting. It brings out a number of striking facts, especially in regard to Negro preachers. One bit is illuminating: "The Negro judges the white man very frequently by the ruffians who attack him, or by the newspapers that libel his race; the white

man too frequently judges the Negro only by the inferior quality of work done by servants. Most cases of dislike that we have investigated showed an economic basis. The fact that our cook suddenly leaves, or a farm hand demands higher wages or even refuses to work, impels us to exclaim, 'How we hate a Nigger.' Does not this position seem a bit unjust? Our attitude toward this race is too important to be dealt with in anything but a large, fair-minded way. Because a race lives on its own properties and no longer serves us in the same capacities as formerly are no just reasons for assuming an attitude of hostility to every phase of that race's existence. However, this very principle of dislike is at the root of much of the condemnation of the modern Negro."

THE BOURBONS AND HELEN KELLER

THE letter from Helen Keller in the April CRISIS is printed in full as a paid advertisement in the Selma, Ala., *Journal*. The affluent writer continues:

"The above letter is copied literally from the CRISIS, issue of April, 1916, official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, published in New York City. This association was formed some years ago, Miss Jane Addams being one of its chief promoters. The magazine is edited by a Negro, W. E. Burghardt DuBois and its editorial columns are usually well filled with abuse and vilifications of the white people of the South. He says he received this letter and contribution from Miss Helen Keller. We hope he is lying, but am afraid he is not. The people who did such wonderful work in training Miss Keller must have belonged to the old Abolition Gang, for they seem to have thoroughly poisoned her mind against her own people."

The editor makes this interesting comment:

"If there is not some mistake—and we fear that there is none in this case—then our own daughter of Alabama, Helen Keller, has given us the blackest eye of them all. This newspaper could not have believed what is published today as an advertisement in our columns, had it not been shown us in black and white. It is a real eye opener. This Negro editor says these terrible things about our own people and country are written by Helen Keller. Full of untruths, full of fawning and boot licking phrases directed toward northern white and Negro fanatics, full of things that cannot be proven and we challenge Miss Keller or anybody else to try to prove them. This article in the CRISIS is a blot and a blight on the good name this really wonderful woman has worked up in the country.

"If Miss Keller admits authorship of this letter—and it would be a real pleasure to us if she would repudiate it—her visit to Selma will not be as welcome as it might have been, advocating and endorsing as she does such unspeakable things as this Negro magazine stands for. If she is ashamed of her southland, why call their dollars? If she is ashamed of the state that gave her birth, we can worry along without her. We are not the oppressors of the Negroes; we are the best friends they have ever had; Booker T. Washington bears out that statement. If we could have lived in blissful ignorance of Miss Keller's social equality ideas, we would have been much more happy when thinking of her."

A writer in the Selma *Times* thus replies:

"Why attempt to hold up to the public any views that she may have imbibed from her environment? We can forgive the people who have filled her with these ideas because they have given the world—Helen Keller. Of course, we of the southland know so well that if she had been reared in touch with the traditions, the history, the life of our people she would have been one of us. Instead she belongs to the world. As the modern miracle she stands above criticism."

In the *Journal* our advertising man finds more matter of absorbing interest:

"I quote this from the CRISIS in corroboration of the assertion heretofore made that it is the intention and the fixed purpose of northern Republicans and all other enemies of Democracy to break the solid South by putting the ballot in the hands of the Negro, in other words using the white women of the South as a means of enforcing the 15th Amendment."

SEGREGATION IN THE WORKING

MR. H. M. BURKETT, a colored real estate man, sends this letter to the Baltimore, Md., *News:*

"The real estate market for colored people is at a standstill, although there are hundreds of colored people ready and anxious to purchase. But where will they buy? The segregation ordinance, which was aimed at the colored people, has as a matter of fact proved a boomerang and hit the white property owner harder than the colored purchaser.

"To prevent the sale of any commodity to a consumer no doubt inconveniences the consumer; but it paralyzes the producer. It keeps the commodity on the hands of the producer and deprives him of the use of the capital tied up therein, as well as from the profits which would accrue from sales.

"With this class of real estate there are other losses greater than the two mentioned. For not only is this field of industry crippled and the profits from sales lost, but many properties which white people do not occupy and would not occupy are left on their hands without a penny income, while they must at the same time pay the increased taxes and assessments, plus in many instances heavy ground rents. Here are, therefore, five direct losses to the owners of property which by location, condition and proximity to colored sections might be used with profit.

"Beside these, there are other losses which the owners of this class of property must suffer. Take McCulloh street, for an example. There are on this street a score of buildings which have been idle for the last two or three years and where depreciation has been enormous. The paper has dropped from dampness; plumbing either rusted or been stolen; plastering fallen; paint cracked and blistered, window lights broken from front and rear until the whole external appearance looks like an abandoned honeycomb; while the inside is a veritable camp-meeting ground for rats. McCulloh street is only taken by way of illustration. There are dozens of other and smaller streets where similar conditions prevail. Who are the losers in such instances? White people of moderate means are fast moving to the suburbs, leaving scores of such houses an immovable burden on the hands of helpless owners who can neither sell nor rent. This condition is growing worse and worse daily, with no relief in sight, and will so continue until the present form of segregation is abandoned. This is the condition as it affects the owners, 99 per cent of whom are white.

"The condition of affairs from the colored man's position is almost as bad. Scarcity of purchasable property for him, as in scarcity of all other things, has doubled the price. Houses in the 500 block Presstman street, which a few years ago sold for $900 and $1000, have recently sold for as high as $2000 and $2200. Small two-story houses in the 1500 block Druid Hill avenue, with $74 ground rents, are selling for $1600 and $1700. Unscrupulous dealers are taking advantage of the restriction forced by segregation and are charging the most outrageous prices to colored purchasers. So eager are some of these dealers to take advantage of these conditions that they are selling property to colored people for one-thirtieth of the price down, taking a lien for the other twenty-nine thirtieths until they have drained the purchaser of every available cent and then evict him under a carefully worded contract, and in the final analysis the unwary purchaser has neither dime nor domicile.

"Segregation, or the Ghetto policy, of handling this real estate, looked at from its most charitable viewpoint, is bad. It means depreciation to the white owner. It means confiscation to the black purchaser. Both suffer, principle is wrong and jurisprudence has as yet to find a right way to do a wrong act."

Contradictory testimony from southern editors discloses the wretched unfairness of the segregation program. The editor of the Richmond, Va., *Times-Dispatch*, writing for northern consumption, says:

"If a section of a city may be set aside entirely for residences, no reason is perceived why the residence district may not be divided into squares for the separate habitations of white and colored people.

"Richmond's segregation ordinance is an unqualified success. It preserves the public peace, stabilizes values and increases prosperity. In the light of the decision in the city-planning case, it is difficult to see how an adverse decision could be rendered."

What could sound fairer? And yet the editor of the Richmond *News-Leader* bears testimony to the fact that under the Richmond ordinance the whites

get all the decent places, and the Negroes get nowhere:

"When we say, as a city, that the Negroes shall not live in certain districts, then the very enactment carries with it an obligation to see that proper living quarters are provided for the Negroes elsewhere than in the districts denied them. This is all Richmond Negroes are asking for and this is the reason their appeal will not be in vain.

"Exactly where new Negro residential districts can be opened to the best interests of all concerned is a question that must be studied with the utmost care."

One cannot escape the logic of the New York *Times*, which appears to have found itself on the segregation question after having gone wrong in nearly every other matter affecting colored folk:

"A man has a legal and constitutional right to occupy his own property! To exclude him from it on the ground of his color is a singular use or abuse of the so much overworked 'police power.' From the lay point of view, Judge Dyer's position seems inexpugnable; but 'seems' cannot be amended into 'is' until the ultimate tribunal has spoken."

KILLING AND LYING

MR. W. D. WEATHERFORD, in a pamphlet against lynching, which is being widely distributed, has this history of the rise of lynching:

"It seems evident that the lynching habit in the South has, in general outline, grown up as follows: First, men lynched (whipped Indians) for misdemeanors, then they began to whip white men who committed crimes. Occasionally a Negro committed some crime and was summarily punished. After the war, it seemed necessary to mete out immediate and harsh punishment to Negro men who molested white women. Then it was an easy step to lynch a Negro for murder, and finally for smaller offense. From this it was no difficult step to lynching a white man for an assault on a woman, then it became easy to lynch a white man for murder, and so the process has gone forward, ever increasing in facility and excuse."

The above analysis is untrue. Lynching did not arise in Reconstruction times. Negroes did not attack white women as soon as they were freed. Not only is this the plain teaching of history but southern men who are honest confirm it. Colonel D. S. Henderson, in a recent address at Columbia, S. C., is thus quoted by the Columbia *State*:

"'Race hatred' was not preached by the leaders of the 'Red Shirts.' On the contrary, the endeavor of General Hampton and his lieutenants was to impress the Negroes that the white people were their friends. There were riots and political clashes in which Negroes were killed in those days, but in 1876 the word 'lynching' was scarcely heard in South Carolina. In some of the counties numbers of Negroes voted the Democratic ticket and there is a record of a county Democratic convention in Barnwell in the late seventies in which about two hundred delegates sat and one-fourth of them were Negroes. Between 1876 and 1886 Negro Democrats were sometimes elected to the Legislature from Colleton, Charleston, Orangeburg and, we believe, Barnwell. In some other counties Negro Democrats were elected to minor offices."

Mob violence arose in Reconstruction times, and then in the eighties an attempt was made to justify it by calling it punishment for crime. When real crimes came and a Negro criminal class was evolved the anger and resentment of the South knew no bounds and the lynching horror culminated in the early nineties. What was it that increased Negro crime? The convict lease system, and this which Weatherford scores:

"We white men must start a crusade against the white vultures who prey on colored girls. Immorality with colored women is not nearly so prevalent as it was before the war. In fact, comparatively speaking, it is a thing of the past, but any man who knows the facts knows full well that for every white woman assaulted by a Negro man, there are a number of colored girls who are seduced by white men. If there were fifty white women assaulted by Negroes in 1916, I have not a doubt there were many times that many colored girls seduced by low-down white men. It is not a truthful answer to say that all colored girls are open to approach. That is a lie far blacker than the face of any Negro in the land. That there are thousands of modest and self-respecting Negro girls every decent southern man who knows the race must acknowledge. We of the white race must brand every white man who seduces

a colored girl as a fiend of the same stripe as the Negro who rapes a white woman."

We quoted in April a southern woman writing in the Macon, Ga., *Telegraph*. We quote another white woman this month in the same paper:

"You ask in today's issue of the *Telegraph* what Lincoln had done that we love him. He died a martyr to the cause of freedom, law, wisdom, justice, moderation and common decency. The South was so corrupt that it needs must take a crucified body to free her from the horrible condition she was in financially, physically, socially, mentally and morally.

"Lincoln freed the South financially and physically because of the dependence of the indolent white race upon the slaves, to the extent that there were absolutely none of the younger generation with energy and ambition.

"He freed her socially because of the ever-increasing number of half-breeds—a fact which even today makes every southern woman blush with shame when some brutish white man pretends that he helps to lynch a Negro in defense of his home and of southern women. God be merciful to hypocrites! I would hate to feel that such beasts are my defense! The mental and moral freedom is included in the above, and social and physical degradation can but ruin mentally and morally. I never pass a half-breed but my face burns with shame that I am a southern woman, and I heartily thank God for Lincoln.

"I am a southern-born woman—a Georgia woman, a Bibb county woman and the daughter of a Confederate soldier who still bears a scar of a wounded right arm. God works all things after the counsel of His own will."

As the Detroit, Mich., *Journal* says, southerners are a bit incoherent and contradictory in their explanations of the race problem:

"The difficulty of understanding the southern lynching spirit soon disappears after one has had a better acquaintance with actual racial conditions. For instance, on Sunday a Florida mob lynched John Dukes, white, for participating in a shooting feud with another white neighbor. The Negro must be suppressed. And the lynching of white business men is undoubtedly intended to impress the Negroes thereabouts. Just as soon as the subnormal colored epileptics hear of the lynching of this white man for shooting, they will immediately become normal and safe units in society. It was to overawe the Negro that the Atlanta mob lynched a Jew last year. So, at least, southerners have explained lynchings to us."

If the matter stopped with incoherence it would be explicable; but why must the South lie? The Lexington, Ky., *Herald* says of the Dixon picture play:

"False history is taught in the presentation of the operations of the Ku Klux Klan. Instead of a band of patriots, of high-minded and noble-spirited men, the Ku Klux Klan was a band of marauders who used the cover of night for the gratification of private greed, of passion, and of rapine. No more disgraceful was the regime of the carpet-bagger than the rule of the Ku Klux Klan."

The *Herald* goes on to remind the South that during the war black men "protected the white womanhood of the South with absolute fidelity and loyalty."

It is natural that the *National Tribune*, the G. A. R. organ, should emphasize the false history of the "Birth of a Nation:"

"The whole Ku Klux Klan idea was cowardly and venomous to the last degree, and it is a wonder that the good sense of the good people of the South endured its degrading nonsense as long as they did. With all the contempt that the southerners pretend for the Negro, with the lack of ability, world-knowledge and force of character, which has been attributed to the down trodden race, yet the southerners would make out an exalted heroism, in a war upon a race which was everywhere inferior in number to them, and still more inferior in social position and education. It was cowardly because it was those who boasted their superiority, descending to sneaking midnight raids upon the humble huts of poor Negroes, fighting and even killing them.

"There never was a redeeming feature about the whole disgraceful Ku Klux Klan system."

The unspeakable libel against Thaddeus Stevens in that play led to a sharp battle when an attempt was made to introduce the play in his former congressional district. When the manager of the motion picture house at Lancaster, Pa., insisted on producing the film, the present congressman threat-

ened to prosecute him for criminal libel, and the mayor declared that on conviction he would evoke the theatre's license. The manager tried to appeal to the courts, but finally yielded. Mrs. M. G. Brubaker, who started the local fight, writes us:

"It is worth while to note, in explanation of Mr. Griest's letter, that by the laws, both of New York and Pennsylvania, to slander a dead man is criminal libel. The responsibility for foisting this infamy upon Pennsylvania rests primarily upon the State Board of Censors of Photo-plays, but had the judges of the courts in Philadelphia—and perhaps other cities—done their duty under the law, 'The Birth of a Nation' could have been kept out of many places on this ground."

TEAPOT TEMPESTS

THE outsider can scarcely realize the spiritual tyranny in the South which begins with the Negro and ends in the most extraordinary places. A rich and prominent white woman of Memphis wished to reward some of her colored servants who had been in her employ some twenty years. She had them invite their friends and entertain themselves in her own parlor. The whole white city was apparently thrown into paroxisms of rage. The *News Scimiter* says:

"Gorgeously dressed Negro women and Negro men attired in full dress suits and white gloves tripped to the strains of the latest dance music at the palatial home of Mrs. James H. Rees, 246 Madison avenue, a prominent Memphis society woman, Wednesday night, after a squad of police reserves, under Captain Couch, had quelled a mob in the street which threw eggs at the house and later at Mrs. Rees when she appeared on her porch."

The Memphis *Press* says editorially:

"The affair on Madison avenue, Wednesday night, caused a whole lot of wholesome indignation. It deserved condemnation. It got it.

"In all probability there was a considerable amount of bad judgment back of the thing rather than a deliberate intention to stir up passions which are largely the heritage of an unhappy epoch, and which it is the duty of all good citizens, white or black, to keep suppressed."

The poor lady is compelled to make almost hysterical apology in public print:

"I realize, however, in view of the articles published in two of the papers, and the criticisms resulting therefrom, that my motives have not been understood. I further realize, and sadly, too, that I made a mistake, and am sorry.

"I trust that my friends and the Memphis public will be gracious and kind enough to accept my sincere explanation.

"I am a southern woman, and I have the same ideas on the race problem that any other southern woman has."

What is this almost tigerish power in the South that compels this slavish kow-towing? One gets a glimpse of it in a paper of the "people," the Anderson, S. C., *Farmers Tribune*, an organ of the unspeakable Blease:

"So, so, since Cole Blease delivered that famous Boston speech in the House of Governors, old sleepy Boston has woke up to the seriousness of the situation and we expect soon to see where they have drawn the color line and shut Mr. Nigger out of his associations with white people, and especially stop the nigger children and white children from going to school together. May be then Neils Christensen will stay in Beaufort, the county that he misrepresents in the state senate, and not spend so much time in Boston. It's a pity that Cole Blease don't take to the platform and speak all over the North and let that Yankee crowd know the truth, then they would quit blaming the South for her attitude towards the nigger."

NEGRO ART

THE development of a real Negro folk theatre in the Harlem district of New York has long been foreshadowed, and may be a reality before another year goes by. The New York *Tribune* thus speaks of a recent performance of "Othello":

"With the exception of Brabantio's temporary stage fright in the first act the actors gave their lines without a slip. In spite of the fact that the players are amateurs, the 'Othello' they presented was by no means an amateur performance, and there were moments, such as the drinking scene in the second act and one of 'Othello's' long speeches in the fourth, when even the most supercilious critic would have forgotten to find fault.

"The production is a distinct achievement of the colored race, and if Harlem can only cultivate a taste for Shakespeare dur-

ing the two weeks that it will run the ambition of the courageous Mr. Wright, who has gathered together and trained the cast, will be fulfilled. He will be able to play 'Othello' at the head of his own company in an extended tour through the cities where there are theatres for the colored race."

In the New York *Morning Telegraph* the following bit appears:

"'The Negro is better fitted for a service to art than is the white.'

"'Jack Johnson's shadow dancing is the most beautiful dancing of modern times, and when he strikes a fighting pose we are carried back to the days of Greek bronzes.'

* * * * * * *

"'Nearly everything that is a contribution to art which is typically American today has been produced by the Negro.'

"'A Negro girl came under my notice who declared she could not draw. I gave her crayons and paper and told her to make a line with the crayons, if she could, using her own choice of color and her own idea of form. She produced in the course of time a picture which, if she had changed two straight lines and added one curved line, would have been one of the finest pieces of cubic art in this country, ranking with any that has been done here. And she had been given absolutely no instruction.'

"'The Negro lives a life, even in this age of cold commercialism, that is full of poetry.'

"The foregoing quotations require an explanation, because they sound radical, do they not?

"If you really think so, drop in some time for a quiet chat with Robert J. Coady, at the Washington Square Gallery, and I am of the opinion you will hear many more radical statements, for Coady has the courage of his convictions concerning art."

THE COURTS

THE most unforgivable thing about the white South is its corrupt courts. Southern testimony on this point is indisputable. The Elizabeth City, N. C., *Independent* says:

"A man to occupy the office of sheriff of this big, busy, prosperous county should be a sober man. Chas. Reid is a drinking man. His drinking of late has been disgraceful to say the least. A man who drinks is not to be entrusted with public money or with the custody of prisoners.

"Some time ago there was a murder committed in this town. To be exact, a Negro drayman by the name of Cicero White was murdered. The sheriff of the county could have been of service on that occasion in helping the police of the town to catch the murderers. But friends of the sheriff said that Reid was 'in his cups' that night. The murderers of Cicero White had no trouble from the sheriff's quarter in making good their escape.

"Sheriff Reid is not to be considered a responsible sheriff. This newspaper has already told how he went to Norfolk one day last summer and arrested an innocent Negro, brought him out here without extradition papers and kept him in jail for several weeks before admitting his mistake. Chief of Police Thomas, in an interview given this paper some time ago, said that he told Reid he had the wrong Negro, and Reid told him to keep his mouth shut, not to let the fact get to the public.

"Sheriff Reid is in charge of the county jail and responsible for the keeping of all prisoners in that jail. An investigation of conditions at the Pasquotank county jail will reveal the most loathsome immorality upon the part of prisoners confined in that institution, if reports are to be believed; and this newspaper has its reports from persons who have been confined in the jail and in position to know of the conduct of the prisoners in that institution.

"As a court officer, Sheriff Reid is not above suspicion. He has been charged with packing juries in behalf of his friends and against those who are not his friends. These charges have never been denied and the evidence is all against Reid. There can be no greater menace to the peace, happiness and prosperity of a county than a sheriff who will abuse and debase his office to thwart or misdirect the ends of justice. No county can afford to retain in office a sheriff upon whom such a suspicion rests.

"This newspaper but briefly presents a few reasons why the candidacy of Chas. Reid should not be treated seriously in the present campaign. The gambling, liquor drinking, whore-mongering element in Elizabeth City and Pasquotank county will shout all the more vehemently for Reid after reading this editorial. It is from the drinking, gambling, whore-mongering element that Reid will get his chief support this time. The *Independent* makes no appeal to this

element; there is another, a higher, a bigger, better and more powerful element in this county."

The Miami, Fla., *Metropolis*, says:

"Is it anybody's business to investigate why a Negro gambler violates the law ten dollars' worth, while a white man committing the same offense violates the law but five dollars' worth? Is there no one in authority in Miami who has the manhood to put a stop to this infamous discrimination?

"In the municipal court, Monday morning, seven Negroes forfeited bonds of ten dollars each, and ten white men forfeited bonds of five dollars each—all having been arrested for gambling and none of them appearing for trial. The white 'gentlemen' also gave fictitious names for police court records, another privilege indulged in by citizens of their class, for the sake of protecting their social standing.

"But the Negroes' little crap game was a ten dollar crime—since a Negro in Miami has no vote and no political power. Even if he 'knows' anything about 'high-up folks,' the Negro's knowledge is of little danger—it's the white man who must be handled with tender care.

"Naturally, it would seem that the white man had committed the greater crime; it would seem that the white man, in his presumably greater comprehension of law and morals, would be held a greater criminal than his ignorant black brother, and that in consequence his would be the greater bond and the heavier punishment. If there is any difference in the bonds imposed, it should be the white man who pays the ten dollars, and the Negro the five.

"The *Metropolis* has been watching this proposition a long time. It has seen the Negro boot-legger sent to the convict camp while gentlemen blind tigers were dismissed 'for lack of evidence.' We have seen the alternative of a money fine save a white man from service on the county roads—the Negro serving his sentence in hard work, because he is without the funds to 'pay out.' It's an outrage, and reflects upon the honor of every decent white man in Dade county."

OKLAHOMA AND THE SOCIALISTS

OKLAHOMA has rewritten her "Grandfather" clause and it is before the voters in the coming election:

"'I had rather lose every federal and state office in Oklahoma than to see the grandfather clause defeated at the coming election,' spoke J. B. A. Robertson, former candidate for governor, before the Democratic county convention.

"'I never have seen the enthusiasm in the Republican party in twenty-five years that there is now,' continued Robertson. 'We Democrats have got to stand together and fight to make this a white man's country. No white man who has the interest of the state at heart will oppose the grandfather clause.'"

The Socialist *Appeal To Reason* says:

"We wonder if the Socialists throughout the country really appreciate the tremendousness of the struggle that is facing the Oklahoma comrades. The Democrats of that state are stopping at nothing in their effort to 'beat the Socialists.' Afraid that the Socialist party may capture the state, the Democrats have passed a registration law which may result in the disfranchisement of the Socialists. Of course, the Socialists are already hard at work in a strenuous effort to have this corrupt law repealed. To show our readers how determined the anti-Socialists are, let us quote from *The Clinton* (Okla.) *Chronicle*, an organ of the Democratic party:

"'If we were a registrar under the new election law, we don't know any decent white Republican that we would dislike to register, but believe a Socialist or Negro would have a healthy chase to find us.'

"In plain words, the Democratic registrars would simply avoid the Socialists. They are not expected, under the new law, to have a regular place where they are to register the citizens. They must be found. Corrupt politicians of the Oklahoma variety would be careful to let the Democrats know where they may be interviewed, but would certainly lead the voters of other parties a merry chase."

The colored *Black Dispatch*, of Oklahoma City, says:

"The Socialist party is preparing great colored posters, three feet by nine feet, which they intend to place in every voting precinct in the state. These posters will direct attention to a mass meeting of all citizens irrespective of party affiliation, to register the voters of that precinct. The posters will name Monday, May 1, as the day for this mass meeting. The Socialist

party especially invites the Negro to be present on that day so that he will have no difficulty in being registered and the *Black Dispatch* suggests that it will be a good idea for the Negro to follow this plan for the Democratic registrar intends to enforce the provisions of the statute that requires two freeholders to make affidavit that a challenged voter is a qualified elector. On that day there will be no trouble for black men to find there on the ground, freeholders who can satisfy the registrar. *If he can be satisfied of your qualifications.* Remember, no reading or writing goes, and do not forget that on the first Monday in May, sixteen days from date, a great opportunity presents itself especially to the Negroes who for the first time must register from the farms to go to the schoolhouse in their precinct and the Socialist party will help to see that a square deal is measured out to all."

It looks as though Mr. Debs, in the *National Rip-Saw*, is right:

"In every political party save alone the Socialist party the color line is sharply drawn, although every effort is made at election time to obliterate it and to have it appear that all men are equal without regard to their previous condition of servitude. A more ghastly lie than this was never told. The colored people in this country are to a large extent free in name only and most of them are actually deprived of the ballot. The politicians who do not openly despise them, cunningly contrive to control their votes in a way to keep them where they are, and when the election is over one of their number, the most active ward worker, is given a janitor's badge and permitted to clean the cuspidors of the white politicians in recognition of their political equality with the white race.

"It is the veriest fraud and false pretense and no one knows this better than the hypocritical politicians who practice it.

"In the Socialist party, upon the other hand, there is no color line. The only line drawn there is the class line, the line between exploiting masters and exploited wage-slaves."

SOLDIERS

VARDAMAN has had another spree in the Senate. The Syracuse *Post Standard* says:

"Senator Vardaman has not been heard from often since he left the governorship of Mississippi. His speeches appear in The Congressional Record, but in no publications that are read. The reason is simple enough. Vardaman's hatred of the Negro is his sole political capital. In Congress, with an Administration that has scrupulously and often cruelly avoided recognition of the Negro as a citizen, Vardaman has no text for ranting.

"The senator seeks to make a case for his pet aversion in the army bill. He solemnly expresses his fear that under it Negro regiments will be recruited in the South which, in the hands of a 'hostile President,' may be used to oppress the whites. At the moment when a colored regiment is proving so worthy its traditions of glory in Mexico, this outburst is peculiarly ridiculous. It is gratifying to record that the senator who promptly poked fun at it was Senator Vardaman's colleague, John Sharp Williams.

"The American Negro makes a splendid soldier. He is obedient, strong, courageous and satisfied. His regiments are always close to maximum strength. He does not desert. The Association for the Advancement of the Colored People has asked that, in the army increase, there shall be two Negro regiments. Their request should be granted. The Negro has proved his worthiness of the army uniform."

John Kenneth Turner, in the *Appeal To Reason*, gives us all this food for thought:

"That the Mexicans were not in a position to offer resistance, is proven by the fact that there *was* no resistance—no battle. NOT A SINGLE AMERICAN WAS KILLED IN EITHER 'ENGAGEMENT.' In the second, not one was wounded. Four were reported wounded in the first, but none so seriously as to make a trip to the hospital necessary.

"Were these four Negro cavalrymen wounded by Mexicans, or by accidents incident to the chase? Did the Mexicans have guns? If so, isn't it likely that at least ONE American would have been killed?

"Great God! WHAT is really happening in Mexico? Are our black dogs of war running amuck, slaking their blood-lust upon unarmed natives?"

MISCELLANEOUS

"WE have received a communication from a student at Howard University relative to conditions there. We fail to see that it improves the situation any. We sympathize with the students, but they have a wrong conception of duty and re-

sponsibility. They were not sent to the University to play. They were sent there to study. The upper classes had their troubles and the upper classes were the ones to settle them.

"In a large institution like that, if the students are to run the University instead of the regularly designated authorities, the sooner it is wiped out of existence, the better it will be for the one to be founded. One thing is certain, there was either something wrong with the students, or there was something wrong with the governing body. If a student has marked out just what he will do and what he will not do, regardless of superior authority, he is not suited to be a student.

"We have too many of that kind of people on the outside now. Military discipline is needed at Howard University. A compliance with rigid rules should be demanded. As we before stated, there are no fundamental rights involved in the controversy, so far as the students' contentions are concerned. If our young friend has not been able to understand and realize this, then we have a very poor opinion of his ability to argue to a final and satisfactory conclusion."—Richmond, Va., *Planet*.

"An interesting illustration is a play now running with much interest and success which presents with great artistic ability and skill the tragic problem of a man apparently white, but with a slight and perhaps questionable strain of Negro blood, from some remote ancestor, who marries a white woman, only to have his secret and shadowy misfortune shouted to the whole world by the birth of a black child!

"The motif, of course, is not new, any more than that of Shakespeare's most famous plays, but has been utilized to a vivid and harrowing effect in a score of different stories, novels and plays on both sides of the Atlantic under such titles as 'The Black Frankenstein,' 'The Inescapable Blot,' 'The Dark Secret,' etc.

"Further than this we have all heard lurid and sensational stories, usually rather vague as to name, date and place, but most circumstantial and convincing in all other details, of similar catastrophes. In fact, the belief that an apparently white man or woman, even one whose ancestors on both sides have passed for white for several generations, may at any time be suddenly confronted by his or her family skeleton in shape of a Negro child, is as universally believed and well attested as William Tell's apple, George Washington's hatchet, madstones, centenarians and hoopsnakes.

"I am not concerned with the general merits of the play, its bearing upon race prejudice, etc. The only point to which I wish to call attention is the fact that the episode upon which its whole appeal is based has never yet been known to happen. In fact, we are able to say that it is highly improbable that it ever could happen."—Dr. Woods Hutchinson in New York *American*.

"This is what the Rev. William C. Jason, president of the State College for Colored Students, Dover, Del., says:

"'Do I want to be white? Yes and no. No, if it appears that with patience and fidelity we can in time work out our own destiny and witness the glory of achievement under surpassing difficulties. Yes, if we are to be perpetually reminded that a black skin is a badge of inferiority which no excellence of character or ability can make less odious to the majority of our fellow citizens. If a white man is the only man who is to be given a man's chance even in our common country, then would God we were white.'"—The *World Outlook* for March.

"In your campaign for preparedness and for the development of this district as a part of an intelligent program of preparedness, it occurs to me that none have as yet stressed what may be in the near future the 'best bit' on the board. We have in this district all the raw materials for iron and steel making, money for chemical production, good rail transportation, water at our door the year round, neither freezing nor runs so low as to stop shipping, nor any reason that railroad strikes should stop production or shipments. And the only reservoir of labor, ready for use and untapped, to wit, about 3,000,000 strong, healthy Negroes, who today are earning a scant living on many farms in many districts, a burden on farm owner and merchant, and for the first time in our history the 'boll-weevil' has created a condition where the cotton farmer is willing for him to leave and engage in other work."—R. A. Terrell, of Birmingham, Ala., in the *Manufacturers' Record*.

Editorial

INITIATIVE

SUBTLE are the ways of racial hatred. One method is to use secret but persistent care to keep the hated people from using their own initiative. They must be made meekly to follow; they must be persuaded to wait until others point the way. Recently in a United States government office it fell to a colored clerk to discover and point out a serious error on the part of his white superior officer. He made his memorandum with judgment and force and cited incontrovertible authority. He then laid the paper before his immediate chief. His chief hesitated and then said confidentially: "It is all right, Blank, but as a friend I would advise you not to put your name to it. You know our superior officer is a southerner and he would not like to be proved to be in the wrong by a colored man. Moreover there is probably some graft in this thing anyway which led to his original signature. Just send it in without your signature."

The colored man hesitated but finally he said: "If you order that signature to be taken off, all right, otherwise it goes." The chief looked at him. The signature remained. What happened? We do not know, but we do know that there is one "mighty" mad southerner in Washington.

CONSOLATION

COLORED folk can always get a dubious sort of consolation in knowing that they have not always had a monopoly of the attentions of the discourteous and the cruel. At a recent dinner given to the oldest woman doctor in the United States, Dr. Anna Manning Comfort told of the indignities which she suffered at Bellevue Hospital in 1865 for the unforgivable crime of being female: "We had to go to Bellevue Hospital for our practical work, and the indignities we were made to suffer are beyond belief. There were five hundred young men students taking post-graduate courses, and we were jeered at and catcalled, and the 'old war horses,' the doctors, joined the younger men.

"We were considered aggressive. They said women did not have the same brains as men and were not trustworthy. All the work at the hospital was made as repulsively unpleasant for us as possible. There were originally six in the class, but all but two were unable to put up with the treatment to which we were subjected and dropped out. I trembled whenever I went to the hospital, and I said once that I could not bear it. Finally the women went to the authorities, who said that if we were not respectfully treated they would take the charter from the hospital.

"As a physician there was nothing that I could do that satisfied people. If I wore square-toed shoes and swung my arms they said I was mannish, and if I carried a parasol and wore a ribbon in my hair they said I was too feminine. If I smiled they said I had too much levity, and if I sighed they said I had no sand.

"They tore down my sign when I began to practice; the drug stores did not like to fill my prescriptions, and the older doctors would not consult with me. But that little band of women made it possible for the other women who have come later into the field to do their work. When my first patients came and saw me they said I

was too young, and they asked in horrified tones if I had studied dissecting just like the men. They were shocked at that, but they were more shocked when my bills were sent in to find that I charged as much as a man."

Remember this is the story of the treatment of a white woman by chivalrous American white men, the same men who tremble with indignation lest a black man look at one of these beautiful creatures.

PROTECTION

THE editor of the *Morning Telegraph* of New York City apparently spends most of his waking hours in a storm cellar away from the buffets of this wicked world. He writes: "As to the Negroes, a writer in the *Herald* makes a hysterical plea for their defense. 'America does not protect them,' says the writer. Protect them from whom? Who hazes the Negro, anyway? There is much flubdub and nonsense being written nowadays, but nothing more silly is seen in print than assertions that Negroes are being ill treated. The whites employ them and pay them. Negroes own land, attend schools, have their churches, enjoy life and are fairly prosperous. And more than that, the Negroes are satisfied, in the main, with their treatment in this country. Let them alone, everybody; they are working out their own salvation."

Of course! To be sure! We know that the oppressed are always happy, particularly in the eyes of the oppressor. Witness the poems about "milking maids"; the joys of the east end of London; the "picturesque" peasant; the "horny-handed son of toil." In this world-wide happiness the Negro, naturally, is part and parcel. "Who hazes the Negro?" Who has lynched three thousand of them in the last generation? Who has murdered about ten thousand more? Who has raped their women and stunted their children? Who daily insults them from their getting up to their lying down? And in spite of all this, do they not "enjoy" life? And are they not fairly "prosperous?" Or, at any rate, if the editor of the *Morning Telegraph* is enjoying life and is fairly prosperous, why should he be bothered about colored folk?

THE CRISIS AND SCHOOLS

WE have noted from time to time a curious attitude on the part of some of the colored schools as regard to THE CRISIS. For the most part, naturally, THE CRISIS has been welcomed and read with avidity. In one or two cases it has been surreptitiously suppressed and kept out of the reading rooms, but protests from our friends have effected its reappearance with profuse apology. We can realize the thought back of some of these actions. How far shall colored students be encouraged to look the facts in the face, or how far shall they be treated as perpetual children with little pats on the shoulders, and "There, there, never mind"; and "Do your duty that is best, leave unto the Lord the rest!" Or how far shall they be faced frankly with the truth, aroused to the full realization of their position and then trusted to fight—to fight with discretion and broadmindedness if possible, but to *fight* for freedom and for right? A recent illustration of this dilemma comes from one of the large institutions of the southeast. A university Chapter of the N. A. A. C. P. had been arousing the institution body to the necessity of joining their society to fight for manhood rights. On the other hand certain members of the faculty dissuaded students telling them that to fight was "un-Christlike." A correspondent thus continues the story: "Very recently at chapel service a professor in the university told how he had the experience

of traveling in a crowded train when some of the ladies had to ride in the smoking car. He said the conductor requested a man to stop smoking, who said it was his right to smoke in a smoking car, and he did not intend to give up that right for anyone. He used this to show that colored people should not assert their rights, and advised them against standing firm on manhood rights."

Here is the real inner Negro problem. There is no power on earth that can keep ten million people from having what they want if those wants are in reasonable consonance with the aspirations of civilized folk. But do we colored people really want our rights; do we dare stand and fight the good fight of faith?

TENEMENTS

WE sincerely trust that individuals and organizations friendly to the Negro are not going to be led into segregation schemes and ghetto plans by organized real estate interests masking as philanthropists. Movements toward furnishing model tenements for colored people are on foot in New York, Chicago and other cities. They are on their face in every way commendable. For the most part colored people in large cities have been compelled to put up with the old fashioned, inconvenient dwellings which white tenants no longer wanted, or they have gotten hold of better class houses only by the payment of exorbitant rents. The experiments of the Suburban Homes Company in New York City show conclusively that an excellent class of colored tenants may be had and good accommodations furnished at a fair rental. This effort should be extended; but when we find taking part in such philanthropic efforts the identical real estate interests in New York which have been working for years to oust colored people from the decent parts of Harlem and establish them upon the mud flats of the river in the extreme northeast, we have a right to view the matter with suspicion. The crucial question is, in New York and Chicago, WHERE are these proposed new tenements to be? Are they to be in a segregated district, or are they to be where there is light, air, transportation and decent surroundings? One great victory for anti-segregation democracy has been the buying of a site for the New York colored branch of the Y. M. C. A. outside of the proposed segregated dead line.

We would be very glad if the Urban League and the Harlem Property Owners' Improvement Corporation would let the public know where their proposed new tenements in New York are to be erected.

DECEPTION

ONE of the unforgivable things about the southern white press is the way in which it deliberately deceives its readers as to the attitude of civilized communities toward Negroes. Even the Columbia, S. C., *State* stoops to this petty deception. The *State* records the facts that hoodlums chased a Negro in Boston, and argues that the lynching spirit so far as Negroes are concerned is just as bad in Boston as in South Carolina, only that there are more policemen in Boston, and southern men are more "sensitive." This is nonsense. The fact of the matter is that Boston is more law-abiding, and that an accused black man there even in the midst of a mob can appeal to law-abiding bystanders and receive protection. In South Carolina the well-known innocence of a black man could only in exceptional cases appeal to the white bystander. The Atlanta, Ga., *Constitution* assumes that the appointment of Miss Bosfield to a position among white clerks in a hospital in Massachusetts was something exceptional and that they

revolted against it just as Georgia would have. This is untrue and the *Constitution* probably knows that it is. There are dozens of colored clerks, male and female, working with their white fellows in all parts of Massachusetts. Just as long as the South receives from its daily press the silly impression that other parts of the world are as crazy and unreasonable in their racial hatreds as are the southern United States, just so long there will be no appeal to reason in those half civilized districts.

THE BOOMERANG

FEW people realize how the southern white people suffer from their own prejudice. For instance, Senator McGehee of Mississippi has been trying to amend the constitution of that state because he says that the white children are not getting a fair deal. The real trouble is this: According to Section 206 of the Mississippi constitution each county of the state receives $1.50 per capita for each child of school age in the county. In the "white" counties this money is distributed among a large number of white children, the colored children getting a few remnants. In the black belt counties, where there are a very few white children and a large number of colored children the whites get the bulk of the fund, making their per capita allowance large, if not munificent. It has even been charged in the past that white school children have been sent to college on the public school funds. The colored school children get inadequate remnants. What Mr. McGehee and his fellows want is not by any means to have the fund distributed equitably among whites and blacks. Oh, no! What he is fighting for is to have the fund distributed according to the population of white school children. Black belt influence (that is, the influence of the white barons of the black belt, not of black men) has hitherto prevented this, but the white Mississippi masses have the political power, and they are pressing for justice through injustice.

FROM ATLANTA, GA.

"PLEASE let me congratulate you and your staff on the most powerful publication in defense of right and justice circulated in the United States, THE CRISIS.

"I not only take it myself, but I purchase twelve copies every month and send them *sub rosa* to white friends and enemies in the South, and especially those of my city and state. Keep this to yourself.

"I want to especially commend you for that cut on lynching, and your strong editorial on the shortcomings of the churches in general and the white churches in particular. That is a splendid and tender place to hit the hypocrite. Hope you will find time and space to hit him again.

"I wish it was so that you could reproduce that cut on lynching on one page with some such inscription: 'American citizens murdered by American citizens, and not one cent or one soldier sent to catch the murderer.' Then on the next page have a cut of the few white American citizens murdered by a few Mexicans, with some such inscription: 'American citizens murdered by a few Mexicans and ten thousand soldiers sent to catch them with the expenditure of millions of the government's money.'

"O, ye white sepulchres—ye hypocrites! The day will come when you will be weighed in the balance and found wanting.

"This is just as I think about it. I will be glad to help pay for the making of such a cut of the Mexican mix-up."

LITTLE LETTERS FROM THE HEATHEN

THE editor of the *Saturday Evening Post* writes to Leon Gardiner of Camden, N. J.: "Permit us to acknowledge your note of February 20 in which you were so good as to bring up an interesting point as to the capitalization of the word Negro. There is unquestionably something to be said in favor of the points you bring up, and we shall be glad to take the matter under further advisement."

Funk & Wagnalls write to Mr. Joseph L. Jones of Cincinnati, O.: "We have to acknowledge with thanks your letter of January 27, concerning the use of the word *Negro* with a lower case initial letter. We have noted that in certain newspapers the use of the capital initial is common, and shall keep your letter before us until such time as we revise our dictionaries, when the subject will be referred to our editors for action.

"The writer is aware that when the word was originally used, it was capitalized, but is also aware that at that time the knowledge of the different tribes and races was restricted. He directs your attention to the table of African tribes in the new Standard Dictionary, from which stock many members of the colored race trace their origin. He realizes, however, that it is impossible for most of them to trace their origin back to any specific stock or tribe, and he feels that to call them *Negroes* is almost as contemptible as to call them *blacks*." Why is either "contemptible"?

The *Cincinnati Enquirer*, writing to the same gentleman, lives up to its reputation: "We have given careful consideration to the suggestion contained in your letter, and can see no reason for changing the style of this office with reference to the use of the word 'Negro.'

"It will avail nothing to enter into an endless discussion as to the reasons for using lower case instead of capital 'n' in the spelling of that word. We have, however, unimpeachable authority for the practice of the *Enquirer*. Certainly this practice is not to be taken as a reflection upon your people."

"THE NEGRO"

DEAR MR. DUBOIS:

My brother and myself read every day, after lunch, some standard work. In this way we have read together a good many volumes. For several weeks we have been reading in this way your volume, "The Negro." We have just finished it, and have been delighted with it. You have done a splendid work in the preparation of this volume and have rendered a most important service to the race. I wish that it might be very widely read, not only by the members of our own race, but especially by the members of the white race. You have brought to light so many things of interest in the history of the race and have discussed the whole subject so intelligently and broadly that even the enemies of the race will be compelled to take notice and to revise their judgment in regard to the Negro. You have shown that he is not the little, insignificent, worthless specimen of humanity that he is represented to be by these enemies. All he needs is the opportunity, a fair chance in the race of life.

FRANCIS J. GRIMKÉ,
Washington, D. C.

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The May CRISIS was wrong in attributing the quotation on the Liberty Bell to Jethro. Jethro's contribution to human thought, as Mr. Milholland writes us, was the idea of representative government set forth in the 18th chapter of Exodus.

POLLY'S HACK RIDE

By MRS. EMMA E. BUTLER

POLLY GRAY had lived six and one-half years without ever having enjoyed the luxury of a hack ride.

The little shanty, merely an apology for a house, in which she lived with her parents, sat in a hollow on the main road in the village, at least fifteen feet below the road; and when Polly sat or stood at the front window up stairs, she watched with envy the finely dressed ladies and gentlemen riding by on their way to the big red brick building on the hill.

On several occasions her secret longing got the best of her, and she mustered all the self control of which her nature boasted to keep from stealing a ride on behind, as she had seen her brothers do on the ice wagon, but the memory of the warm reception usually awaiting the little male Grays, accompanied by predictions of broken necks, arms, legs, etc., caused her little frame to shiver.

Who then could say that Polly was wanting in sisterly love when she exulted in the fact that she was going to a funeral? What did it matter if Ma Gray was heartbroken, and Pa Gray couldn't eat but six biscuits for his supper when he came home and found the long white fringed sash floating from the cracked door knob?

Polly reviewed the events leading up to her present stage of ecstacy: Ma Gray had sent in hot haste for Aunt Betty Williams, who came with question marks stamped on her face, and when she found Ella, the two-year-old pet of the family in the throes of death she was by far too discreet to say so but advised Ma Gray to put her down. Polly had then become afraid and had run down stairs. She felt it—yes, sir—she felt it 'way down in her "stummik!" Something was going to happen, so when Ma Gray appeared at the head of the stairs with eyes swollen, and still a-swellin', and told her in a shaky voice to go to school for the children, she knew it had happened.

She started off at break-neck speed but, undecided just as to the proper gait for one bearing a message of such grave importance, she walked mournfully along for a while, then as the vision of a hack and two white horses arose, she skipped and finally ran again until she reached the schoolhouse.

The afternoon session had just begun, as she timidly knocked on the door of the class-room where the two elder Grays were "gettin' their schoolin'"; and when the teacher opened the door, she beheld a very dirty little girl blubbering, "Ella's dead; Mamma's cryin'. Kin Bobby and Sally cum home?"

Master Bobby and Miss Sally were dismissed with the reverence due the dignity of their bereavement, and on their way home they proceeded to extract such bits of information as they deemed suitable for the occasion: "Were her eyes open or shut? Had she turned black yet? Did Aunt Betty cry too? Did Mamma fall across the bed as the breath was leaving her body?" Whereupon Miss Polly, being a young lady of a rather keen imagination upon which she drew, and drew heavily in times of need, gave them quite a sensational version of the affair, and by the time they reached home they were fully prepared to grieve with a capital "G." Sally ran to Ma Gray and with a shriek, threw both arms around her neck, while Bobby fell on his knees by the deceased Ella, imploring her to come back and be his baby sister once more.

Aunt Betty told her next door neighbor afterwards that she had her hands full and her heart full too, trying to quiet them. And if the smell of fried liver and onions had not reminded Bobby that it was near dinner time, she really couldn't tell how she should have managed them.

As plateful after plateful of liver, onions and mashed potatoes disappeared, the raging storm of grief subsided in the hearts of the young Grays, and by the time dinner was over Bobby was kept busy unpuckering his lips to suppress a whistle, and Sally had tried several bows of black ribbon on her hair to see which one looked best.

After the dishes were cleared away, and Ma Gray was scouring the floor in a solution of concentrated lye, water and tears, Uncle Bangaway, a retired deacon in the Baptist church, stepped in to pay his respects.

Uncle Bangaway was considered a fine

singer in his younger days and was quite proud of the accusation, so he proceeded to express his sympathy for Ma Gray in the words of his favorite hymn, kept in reserve for such occasions:

"Wasn't my Lord mighty good and kind?
O Yeah!
"Wasn't my Lord mighty good and kind?
O Yeah!
"Wasn't my Lord mighty good and kind
"To take away the child and leave the mother behind?
"O Yeah! O Yeah! O Yeah!"

When he finished singing Ma Gray stopped crying to smile on him. It seemed that the hymn brought to her mind certain facts that were well worth considering.

On the morning of the day appointed for the funeral, a dark cloud hung over the village when Polly awoke, and her heart sank within her. Oh! if it should rain! Every hack she had ever seen on a rainy day had the curtains down, and there was no use riding in a hack if you had to have the curtains down. Anyhow, she began to dress, and before she was half through the sun began to peep through the clouds, and finally it shone brightly; and so did Miss Polly's face.

Who, then, could not pardon the cheerful face she brought down stairs where the funeral party was gathered? Dressed in a new black dress, new shoes, new hair ribbon, even new gloves, and a hack ride scheduled for the next two hours, was enough to make her very soul shine.

She hardly heard the minister as he dwelt at length on the innocence of childhood; nor his reference to Him who suffered the little ones to come unto Him; but the closing strains of "Nearer My God To Thee" seemed to awaken her from pleasant dreams.

When the funeral procession started out Polly felt very sad, but the tears wouldn't come and, of course, "you can't make 'em come, if you ain't got no raw onions."

Now, it fell to her lot to sit in the hack with her great uncle, "Uncle Billings" Ma Gray called him, but Polly often wondered why Pa Gray spoke of him as "Uncle Rummy."

One of the many reasons for Polly's aversion to Uncle Billings was because of his prompt appearance before dinner every Sunday, when he would call her mother's attention every time she, Polly, took another doughnut or cookie. So you may be sure her spirits fell when she realized the state of affairs.

On the way to the cemetery neither found much to say to the other, but when they started home Uncle Billings began to lecture Polly concerning her apparent indifference to the family bereavement; during which discourse Polly sat without hearing one word, as her mind was otherwise engaged. She was trying to think of some manner in which to attract the attention of the Higdon girls as she passed the pump; she knew they would be there.

Before her plans were matured, however, the red bonnet of Cecie Higdon loomed up at the corner, and standing right behind her were Bessie and Georgia Higdon and Lucy Matthews.

Now was her chance! Now or never! So she sprang from her seat, leaned far out of the window, and gave one loud "Whee!" to the girls, waving her black-bordered handkerchief meanwhile.

Uncle Billings had just dropped off in a doze, and Polly's whoop brought him out of it so suddenly that he could find nothing more appropriate to say than, "Hush your noise, gal!" when with a sudden jerk the hack stopped and they were home.

As Polly alighted from the hack, she began to realize how, as a mourner, she had lowered her dignity by yelling from the window 'ike a joy-rider, and she was not a little u easy as to how Ma Gray would consider the matter should old Rummy inform her. So during supper she cautiously avoided meeting his eye, and as soon as she had finished eating she ran upstairs to change her clothes.

Here her mother found her later, with her head resting on the open Bible, and when she tried to awaken her she said, "Yes'm, just tell him not to drive quite so fast."

SONG OF THE AMERICAN DOVE

(Written after reading "Song of the American Eagle.")

By LUCIAN B. WATKINS

I BUILD my nest not on the crest
Of the mountain-throne, but in the breast—
The sheltering arm of the forest warm,
Where my dovelets swing 'mid the maddest storm:
Here I see and sigh! 'neath the grieving sky,
Lo, a race is hung on the trees to die!

A-wing I go, and the land below
Is riot-red with a cruel woe;
For the hand of Hate, at a furious rate,
Is sowing the seeds of a terrible fate;
And each venomous seed is the prejudice weed
That buds and blooms with a murderous deed!

Oh, I love the land of Justice grand,
Where men are free, heart, head and hand;
Where the smile and nod of the greening sod
Are bright and glad with the gift of God:
Where over the plains and the mountains reigns
The flag that frees each soul from chains!

"Land of the free," whose flag I see!
What boots thy boast of Liberty?
What avails thy might, while in thy sight
A race is robbed of its dearest right?
Hark! I hear the yell of the hounds of hell—
Thy sons obsessed with the lynching spell!

How I long to see thy Liberty
With e'en thy lowliest subject free;
With none denied or crushed in pride,
But souls ascending side by side;
Thy streaming Stars and bleeding Bars
Thus mean a victory more than war's!

"Let freedom ring!"—'tis well to sing,
But let it from the mountains bring—
Not only to the fortunate few—
Its peace to all 'neath the "Red, White and Blue!"
Ah! I see and sigh, 'neath the heavens high,
While a race is hung on the trees to die!

AN APOSTROPHE TO THE LYNCHED

By LEILA AMOS PENDLETON

HANG there, O my murdered brothers, sons of Ethiopia, our common Mother! Hang there, with faces upturned, mutely calling down vengeance from the Most High God!

Call down vengeance upon this barbarous nation; a nation of hypocrites, time-servers and gold-worshippers; a nation of ranting, ramping, stamping creatures who call themselves evangelists and who practice the evangel of restriction and proscription; a nation of wolves who hunt in packs and who skulk away if caught alone; a nation always ready to "avenge" itself against the weak, but with mouth filled with ready excuses for not attacking the strong.

Hang there until their eyes are unsealed and they behold themselves as they are and as they appear to an amazed world! Hang there until their ears are opened to the ominous sounds of warning! Hang there until their foresworn souls perceive the true meaning of Liberty and Justice, until they catch a glimmer of the meaning of Christianity!

Martyrs to lawlessness, bigotry, prejudice, if you by dying can accomplish some of these things, Death will have been swallowed up in Victory.

National Association for the Advancement of Colored People

THE SEGREGATION ISSUE

THE Supreme Court of the United States on April 17 restored to its docket for reargument before a full bench the case involving the constitutionality of the Louisville, Ky., segregation ordinance which was argued the previous week before seven justices by Moorfield Storey, National President of the N. A. A. C. P., and Clayton B. Blakey, of Louisville, representing this Association. Chief Justice White gave no explanation for the decision to have the case reargued, but it is believed the court is about evenly divided on the question.

It will probably not be reached by the full court until after the opening of the term in October, by which time it is hoped the nomination of Mr. Brandeis will have been confirmed.

On the same day Judge Dyer in the United States District Court issued a temporary injunction restraining the city officials of St. Louis from enforcing the two segregation ordinances passed by that city at the special election on February 29. The Judge declared he would have issued a permanent injunction except for the fact that the Supreme Court has under consideration the Louisville case which will decide the fate of the Negroes in a dozen cities. He said that as a citizen he had voted against the two ordinances and that at the time he thought them unconstitutional; as a jurist he held the same opinion.

"The Negro," the court declared, "is entitled to the same rights as is a white man. And, gentlemen, it would be a shame for me not to administer justice to them. The Negro doesn't want social equality. He wants the same rights before the law as the white man and he should have them."

Wells H. Blodgett, Isaac H. Lionberger, Frederick Judson, and George B. Webster were the attorneys for the colored people. The injunction restrains Mayor Kiel, the Board of Police Commissioners, the City Counselor, and other city officials from establishing the Negro ghetto.

STILL FIGHTING THE FILM

THE successes in two states and several cities won by the colored people against the producers of the great spectacle which seeks to defame them, is largely neutralized by the advertising which this opposition has given the film. But such incidents as this, copied from the Chicago *American* of April 24, explain how impossible it is for the branches of this Association to abandon the fight:

"LAFAYETTE, IND., April 23.—After witnessing the picture of 'The Birth of a Nation,' Henry Brocj, who five weeks ago came here from Kentucky, walked out on the main street of the city and fired three bullets into the body of Edward Manson, a Negro high school student, fifteen years old. The boy died to-night. There was no provocation for the tragedy and Brocj is in jail under charge of murder."

The City Council of Des Moines, Ia., after a splendid fight by the Branch, barred the production by a vote of 4 to 1 under authority of an ordinance which forbids stirring up race prejudice. The Gary Local succeeded for the second time in stopping the "Birth of a Nation" from showing; and the opposition has been as vigorous along the Rio Grande as the pursuit of Villa, and much more successful. Emory D. Williams, a member of the El Paso Branch, persuaded the management at Las Cruces, N. M., to refrain from showing the film; and the most objectionable features were eliminated when it was shown at Douglas, Ariz. Jasper B. Williams, President of the El Paso Branch, and U. S. Goen, formerly U. S. District Attorney, carried on a vigorous publicity campaign which was largely responsible for the successes. In Tacoma the film was blocked by a city ordinance won through the untiring efforts of Col. Albert E. Joab and Evan S. Stallcup, a son of the late Judge Stallcup, two distinguished white members of the National Association who are always to be found on the firing line in any struggle for human rights in the Northwest.

Regarding the question of credit for its suppression in Ohio, recently raised by the editor of the Cleveland *Gazette*, the only credit desired by the N. A. A. C. P. is that of having fought the thing consistently wherever we have a branch from the day of its first production in the United States. We only wish we could divide honors with more men like Harry C. Smith.

THE GRAND PRIZE SCHOLARSHIP

THE Pittsburg Branch has just announced the winner of the two hundred dollar scholarship awarded for turning in the largest net amount in Association memberships and CRISIS subscriptions in the contest last fall. Donald Jefferson, who was chosen from among four candidates because of his character and scholarship, is a Pittsburg boy of twenty, the son of William Jefferson, of 1608 Colwell street. He graduated from the Pittsburg High School in June, 1915, where he stood equally high in his class and on the athletic field, having won his letter in track and baseball as well as making half-back on an all-star football team. At present he is employed in one of the local drug stores. The scholarship will enable him to carry out his ambition to study chemistry, and is good for the year 1916-17 in any American institution for higher education to which the candidate is eligible.

DONALD JEFFERSON

THE CLEVELAND CONFERENCE

THE first District Conference to be held by branches of the National Association will occupy four sessions on May 30 and 31, in Cleveland, O. Delegates from the Pittsburg, Columbus, Detroit, Toledo, Buffalo, Dayton, and Springfield Branches will participate in the following program which has been arranged by a committee of the Cleveland Branch headed by F. E. Young:

At the afternoon session, May 30, a symposium will be held on Community Problems and on Women's Responsibility in Building up the N. A. A. C. P.; at the evening session the Mayor will welcome the delegates, and Judge E. J. Hart, delegates, and the president of the Cleveland Branch will speak. The afternoon session on May 31 will be given over to a discussion of The Negro's Opportunity in the Industrial Fields of the North, and to Efficiency of Branches; Governor Willis, of Ohio, and a representative of the National Office will address the final session.

The idea of this conference is one that should appeal to all branches. Distance makes it impossible for many to send delegates to the annual meeting of the Association; the number of branches and locals is becoming so great that it is equally difficult for National Headquarters to keep in personal touch with the sixty-five smaller units. It is therefore proposed that the N. A. A. C. P. organize in ten district groups, each to hold an annual conference during the first fifteen days of November under the auspices of some central branch. The following districts are suggested tentatively:

District I: Boston, Providence, New York, Newark, East Orange, Trenton, Philadelphia.

District II: Washington, Howard University, Baltimore, Lincoln University, Virginia Union University, Harrisburg, Baltimore County Local, York, Pa., Local, and Wilmington.

District III: Pittsburg, Cleveland, Detroit, Columbus, Toledo, Springfield, Ohio, Dayton, Buffalo.

District IV: Louisville, Cincinnati, Indianapolis, Terra Haute, Vincennes, Indiana, and Evansville, Ind.

District V: Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Gary, Ind., Galesburg, Peoria, Champaign, Decatur, and Danville.

District VI: St. Louis, East St. Louis, Alton, Springfield, Ill., Jacksonville, Ill., Quincy, Carbondale, Cairo, and Mounds Local.

District VII: Kansas City, Mo., Kansas City, Kans., St. Joseph, Topeka, Des Moines, Muskogee, and Denver.

District VIII: New Orleans, Shreveport, Key West Local.

District IX: Los Angeles, Northern California, Albuquerque, and El Paso.

District X: Portland, Seattle, Tacoma, and Walla Walla.

APRIL GAINS

ANOTHER case of Civil Service discrimination has been won by the Washington, D. C., Branch in securing the appointment of a colored girl who stood highest on the list, but who had been repeatedly passed over until within two weeks of the expiration of her eligibility.

The treatment of Mrs. H. E. Plunkett by the New England Sanatorium indicates that there is amply need for this Association even in the home of the Abolitionists. Mrs. Plunkett and her husband arranged over the telephone for her confinement at the Stoneham institution. Their carriage called and set her down at the door about 8.30 in the evening. Soon after, a nurse came into the waiting room.

"Oh, you are colored, aren't you?" she asked.

"Obviously," Mrs. Plunkett replied.

The patient waited nearly an hour, then Dr. Cross came in.

"Why didn't you tell me you were colored? I would have saved you the trouble of coming here. It would make no difference if you had money to pay for a room."

Mrs. Plunkett asked that she be sent home at once, but was told that the team had been put up for the night. She was shown to a bed in the maternity ward, a screen was placed about it to shield the other patients from contamination, and she was given permission to sleep. No night dress was offered her.

"The hospital had none, and of course none of the patients would loan one to a colored woman," Dr. Bliss testified later.

Twelve hours of tears and agony intervened between her arrival and the time when she went, unassisted, to the carriage that bore her home, resolved to die with her unborn rather than risk such humiliation again at the gentle hands of organized charity.

At the meeting of protest which was immediately organized by Mrs. Butler R. Wilson of the Boston Branch, the head of the institution rose and disavowed the acts of his assistants; but it is a pleasure to record that the town of Stoneham is suing the hospital for the taxes from which it was exempted when it pretended to come within the definition of a "charitable institution."

Boston, too, has been making a strong appeal to have colored girls admitted to the department stores as saleswomen; two thousand replies from patrons of the stores received by the Branch indicate clearly that prejudice against colored clerks is imaginary rather than real; the general Boston public is entirely willing to be served by anyone who is efficient. Along the same line, the Cleveland Branch is making an effort to open more places to colored men in industry, and report that several large factories in Cleveland and neighboring towns are beginning to employ colored labor in large numbers.

MEETINGS

MISS KATHRYN JOHNSON, Field Agent for the N. A. A. C. P., has been carrying the faith of the new abolitionism into darkest Louisiana during April. As evidence of just how dark the situation is, she calls attention to an eight column heading in the Shreveport *Times:* "Every loyal Democrat's ballot is needed to administer a crushing defeat to the first attempt in twenty years to Republicanize Louisiana and destroy white supremacy here," which is to be read along with the inscription over a choice collection of guns in the vestibule of a local museum: "These are the guns with which *we* maintained white supremacy at the polls in Louisiana."

After affecting a reorganization of the Shreveport Branch, Miss Johnson plunged into the ten days' campaign for five hundred members which New Orleans is carrying on as we go to press. The sixty members of the Branch organized in five teams which report daily at the Y. M. C. A. Our latest word is a telegram requesting several thousand more membership blanks, so we trust the hosts are rallying.

A meeting was held on April 28 to discuss initial steps for organizing a New York Branch. Charles H. Studin, of the Board of Directors, presided, and the meeting was addressed by Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois, Mary White Ovington, and Mrs. Butler R. Wilson of Boston. A committee of thirty appointed at that meeting are at work upon the details of organization.

Mrs. Wilson and Archibald H. Grimké, President of the Washington Branch, addressed practically the entire student body

and faculty of Lincoln University on the evening of May 1, the beginning of commencement week. Mr. Grimké spoke on "Negro Ideals and Aspirations," and Mrs. Wilson on the N. A. A. C. P. The latter addressed the One Hundredth General Conference of the A. M. E. Church in Philadelphia on May 4, and the night previous raised a generous contribution for the Louisville segregation case at a meeting arranged by the Newark, N. J., Branch.

Through the courtesy of Rev. Percy Grant, the Public Forum of the Church of the Ascension, New York, was turned over to the N. A. A. C. P. on Sunday evening, May 7. "Race Discrimination and How to Combat It" was the general topic, Dr. Du Bois speaking on the National Problem, Miss Mary White Ovington on the Position of the Negro in New York, and Mrs. Butler Wilson on the Work of the National Association.

In an address before the New England Dry Goods Association at the City Club in Boston on April 18, Moorfield Storey, National President of the Association, said that color prejudice was doing more to prevent the advancement of the race than all the efforts of education and social work in the other direction.

"You cannot plant in the community a body of men who feel that they have been injured without in the end paying for it, as Massachusetts and Boston are now paying for the prejudices which were held a few decades ago against the Irish, by the class government which the latter wield."

Musicales, too, have been part of the month's branch activities. Baltimore netted seventy-five dollars on a concert given by the Williams Colored Singers; and Cleveland presented Misses Pinckney and Nickerson and Mr. Allen, from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music, in a recital on May 3. The latter branch also held an enthusiastic mass meeting early in April which was addressed by Major John R. Lynch.

JUVENILE DEPARTMENT

THE second annual event given by the Junior League of the District of Columbia Branch took the form of a play which was written by Miss Hallie E. Queen.

The children of the Junior League who so creditably enacted the parts in the drama are deserving of all praise. The speeches which the author put into the mouths of her characters as she developed the action of the play were stimulants to thought on the part of the young people.

There have been many requests for a repetition of the play, and it is heartily recommended for production by the branches everywhere.

THE WASHER-WOMAN

By OTTO L. BOHANAN

A great swart cheek and the gleam
of tears,
The flutter of hopes and the shadow
of fears,
And all day long the rub and scrub
With only a breath betwixt tub and
tub.
Fool! Thou hast toiled for fifty years
And what hast thou now but thy
dusty tears?
In silence she rubbed . . . But her
face I had seen,
Where the light of her soul fell shining and clean.

The Georgia Odd Fellows

1. A STATEMENT FROM BENJAMIN J. DAVIS.

BACK of all the Odd Fellow troubles in Georgia is the desire of Grand Master Morris to perpetuate himself in office. A secondary factor is the customary attitude of certain members of our race toward others who have succeeded in getting visible results.

When Edward H. Morris was made Grand Master at Baltimore in 1910 it was by means of the representatives from Georgia. J. C. Asbury, who was the defeated candidate then, left the Order and attempted to organize a separate Order of Odd Fellows. Morris made a sacred pledge that he wanted the office for only two years because he was going abroad and desired to enjoy the privileges which his rank would give; that when the Biennial Movable Committee should meet in Atlanta two years hence he would not be a candidate for office, but would use his efforts to elect B. J. Davis. Morris broke his word in Atlanta by refusing to enter into the election and adjourning the meeting, keeping himself in office. Because under the law he was ineligible to succeed himself, in Boston he had the law of succession repealed. Knowing that at Washington this year Georgia's representation would be large enough to prevent the continuance of these tactics he conspired to place back into the Order an expelled member, A. Graves, who brought certain so-called charges against the District Grand Lodge officers. These charges alleged gross mismanagement of the Order's business, insubordination and contempt of the Sub-Committee of Management, and oppression of the women members of the Order. The evidence at the trial showed, instead of mismanagement, the growth of the Order in Georgia in ten years from near bankruptcy to nearly three-quarters of a million in assets, and under the same management; of no order or decree of the Sub-Committee having ever been violated; of the salvation of the Household of Ruth from bankruptcy by taking over their Endowment Department and putting it on a business basis. We were found guilty—of what no one knows—and Ingram, District Grand Master, and Davis, District Grand Secretary, were suspended for one year, while the charter of the State Organization was revoked. No provision was made to carry on the business of the Order, which has cash collections of nearly twenty thousand dollars a month, and with assets of nearly seven hundred and fifty thousand dollars. At one stroke all form of organization was wiped out, the charter revoked, the active officers removed and no provision made for either reorganizing the Order, or the placing of any one in charge. To prevent dissipation and loss the State Courts were invoked and receivers requested for the Order's affairs. The Court appointed the same officers elected in August as receivers.

GRAND MASTER E. H. MORRIS

To strike down a man who stood in the way of his ambition, Edward H. Morris has endeavored to destroy the wealthiest Negro concern in the world, to stop its growth and dissipate its accumulations. I do not claim all the credit for what the Odd Fellows of Georgia have done, but at least I conceived the idea, furnished the plans and the inspiration, and actually did by day and night much of the hard work. Visible success is distasteful to some of our people, and so I have made enemies. I am fighting the Sub-Committee decrees, not for my selfish interest, but to preserve to the race the

accumulations of these years, to disprove the theory that the race can create but cannot preserve. I am right, and though I go down in defeat it will not conquer my soul or weaken my will. I should begin all over anew and do it all over again, for what I have done I still can do.

2. A STATEMENT FROM THE GRAND MASTER.

THE highest executive and judicial authority in the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows in America is the Sub-Committee of Management. In this body is vested the power to establish, regulate and control all other branches and members of the order.

The enactments of the Biennial Movable Committee, the highest legislative branch in the order, may be declared unconstitutional, void or inoperative by the Sub-Committee, subject in this regard only to review by the Committee of Management.

Every branch of the order, and there are more than forty thousand, owes its existence and right to be classed as one of the links in the chain of Friendship, Love and Truth to either the Committee or Sub-Committee, and in many instances to both.

The Sub-Committee consists of nine members, viz: A Master, Deputy, Treasurer, one Secretary and five Directors, chosen every two years by various delegates from lodges in the Biennial Movable Committee assembled.

Whoever is of the order and desires to remain one of its vast army, now more than three million (over half a million in the United States), must bow in obedience to the law of the order; not the law as he thinks it is or ought to be, but the law as defined, construed, interpreted and declared by the Sub-Committee.

In addition to the inherent powers of the Sub-Committee it is expressly provided by one of the written laws enacted by a Biennial Movable Committee that "the Sub-Committee of Management shall have original jurisdiction to punish any lodge, District Grand Lodge, or member thereof for any failure, neglect or refusal to obey any order, mandate, ruling, decision or judgment of the Sub-Committee of Management."

At one of the regular meetings of the Sub-Committee it ordered and directed the District Grand Lodge of Georgia and the officials thereof to do certain things, and to refrain from doing certain others in relation to the Endowment Department of the Household of Ruth, the female branch of the order.

Complaint was made to the Sub-Committee by various members in Georgia that its orders were not being obeyed, and thereupon a rule was entered against all parties concerned to show cause why they and each of them should not be adjudged guilty of contempt of the Sub-Committee.

After a full and complete hearing by the entire Sub-Committee, all parties being present in person and by counsel, two of the defendants were found guilty and declared suspended for one year. The other defendants were acquitted.

The strength and glory of the Grand United Order of Odd Fellows is its universality and oneness; an Odd Fellow in New York, California, Africa, Cuba or Great Britain is not a New York Odd Fellow, a California Odd Fellow, an Odd Fellow of Africa, Cuba or Great Britain, but an Odd Fellow. It is this that makes the order worth the while. The Sub-Committee is the tie that binds the link that holds them all together.

The loss of two men or two hundred men, no matter who they are or what places they have held, can make no vacancy in the ranks of the order or cause more than passing notice. The order marches on and on, and speeds the going of all who do not obey.

He who would lead must know how to follow. He who would teach must know how to obey.

B. J. DAVIS

Curtains of Gloom

TWO BOYS

TIME moves rapidly after the days of kilts and "Buster Brown" suits. Theodore and Marion spent the first years of their lives on the campus of Fisk University, in Nashville, Tenn. White and colored were so mixed there that they had never heard of distinctions till we moved to Louisville, Ky., in their fifth and seventh years—they to enter the public schools and I to teach in the high schools. Not long afterwards they came home from school one day greatly puzzled.

"Papa, are we colored folk?" They were seeing their first street fights between the white and colored children, and they were hearing things about colored folk.

Later on there was more definite teaching about prayer. "Papa, do you mean I have to pray for white boys, too?" That was Theodore. He could not see why he should pray for boys who called him "nigger" and threw rocks at him.

When they came to the eighth grade my little colored boys were no longer in existence except in feature and color. In thought, action, purpose and ambition they had become white boys. All the books they read were about white boys—fine boys, too. All the girls they read about had blue eyes, golden hair and rosebud lips. All the history they studied never told anything worth remembering and calculated to inspire except about white people. The only pictures of colored children they saw were the "Gold Dust Twins," and all that kind of fine art which those artists so love to hold up in ridicule. They are not to be blamed, of course, for they never saw any colored children whose young faces showed character and bright hopes for all the blessed conditions of life. So my boys of their own accord in mind and thought were white. The week before Thanksgiving Day Theodore's teacher assigned for the subject of his essay to be brought in *The Manners and Customs of Our Forefathers*. When he had written all he knew, he came to me with this request: "Papa, will you give me some points about the manners and customs of our forefathers?" "Certainly, son; our forefathers in summer time went bare-footed, worked the plantations, wore copperas pants, and our mothers wore bandannas around their heads." I can hear still the snort of disgust which cut short my enumeration of valuable points. "You know that I mean our Pilgrim Fathers." Yes, I knew. I knew that my boys, in character, intelligence, hopes, and in all commendable boyhood things were white except in the privilege to make the most of themselves without having to fight proscription every inch of the way in life.

At last they came into the high school and began to talk college, and the days were but few till I saw them off on the train for college, with all their gay life and hopes for the future. For years it had been just we three, and the days that followed were lonely ones for me.

But I looked four years ahead to the commencement season of 1916, hoping to get my boys back with finished education and consequent college culture.

Last spring I brought Theodore home and was told that he was in the incipient stage of tuberculosis. The blow was so staggering it well nigh benumbed my senses, but for a while I was reassured, so rapidly did he respond to the heroic measures taken. But in the early fall he began losing ground, and by November I was told that his only hope lay in getting in a good tubercular sanatorium in a favorable climate. Denver was recommended. I found upon inquiry that all the sanatoriums of Denver closed their doors against colored people. Saranac, New York, was tried in vain. Through a friend, Colorado Springs was canvassed and no reply of any kind seemed forthcoming. I wrote the head physician of the Denver City Hospital to rent a private ward. "No," came my telegram. In utter despair, December 11, I sent my boy to Dr. Westbrook to get him in a colored family for such benefit as could be had under such a situation in a favorable climate. After he was gone word came from a friend in Colorado Springs saying St. Francis, a Catholic hospital, would take my son.

At the end of the first week in January, 1916, a telegram came telling me my boy had come near to death in a violent hemor-

rhage. I went on to him as fast as steam could take me. He rallied, and at this date is about and doing well. After an examination by one of Denver's tubercular experts I was told that to take the boy back to Kentucky would mean certain death, but that if I should take my son down into New Mexico or Arizona, there would still be some hope of recovery. I wrote Dr. Shortle's sanatorium at Albuquerque, N. M., St. Vincent, the Catholic sanatorium at Santa Fe, N. M., and the Tucson, Ariz., sanatorium. From Albuquerque came the set reply, "We do not take colored patients." No reply has come from Tucson. From St. Vincent, the Catholic sanatorium at Santa Fe, "We will take your son; the rates are eighty dollars per month." God bless St. Francis, St. Vincent, and the Catholics forevermore. In our sorrowful quest—in the unspeakable agony and heartbreak of it all, hunting for a place where my boy, smitten with death, might make a last stand and have the pitiful chance to make a fight for his life, we brought along with us the culture of Fisk University, Hartford Seminary, the University of Indiana, but we had to bring along also the fact that we are colored, and no matter what else we had, nor how grievously a boy on the threshhold of useful and most promising manhood was smitten, that "colored" was enough to put us with all except the Catholics beyond the pale of a common humanity. A black bear, a hound dog, a chimpanzee are creatures also that suffer and die with tuberculosis. Had these applied at these sanatoriums could they have been more ruthlessly and with less compunction shut out? Santa Fe is secured, but the boy is suffering from the altitude of Denver, and Santa Fe is higher than Denver; but after a week or ten days more we must move on from Denver southward, still hunting a suitable place. The expense is enormous. My salary is all I have with which to support my boy, and that stops all the time I am away on leave of absence; but I cannot take him back to Louisville and I will not leave him without being provided with the care and security of sanatorium provisions. I will fight to the last ditch, and, if I must, go clear down to the gates with him, that being the eternal limit set as the distance one mortal may go with another. I am rushing through my new book of poems. If you will take a copy to help us, send $1.50 to Mr. W. L. Evans, 920 West Chestnut, Louisville, Ky. In my absence he has the publication in charge. With me now it is my hour of the greatest heartache and the greatest need I ever knew. Any friend who will take a copy of the book and be enough of a book agent to pass this to another may help to give me victory for my boy's life.

G. M. McCLELLAN.

PROGRESSIVE OKLAHOMA

THE Bristow *Record* and the Bristow *Enterprise*, two white weekly newspapers published at Bristow, Okla., both featured on the front page a story of a Negro committing the crime of burglary on Monday, April 24, and both told of the severe punishment dished out to the colored man who had stolen from white men.

On the same day, April 24, at Bristow, a fiendish white man criminally assaulted a thirteen year old colored girl and was arrested and afterwards released on a straw bond approved by the same justice of the peace who so severely punished the colored man for stealing, but neither of these white papers published a single line about the white man who committed the crime of rape! This is adding insult to injury. It manifests a spirit of unfairness which lurks only in the hearts of beastly moral cowards. No really good citizen who respects the law and loves the sanctuary of his own home would condone by silence the unspeakable crime against woman. And for two newspapers in a town where such crime is committed to refuse to publish it because the criminal is a white man and the victim a colored girl, renders the crime the more appalling because it bespeaks a dangerous social condition. The colored people of Bristow have proved themselves law-abiding, peace-loving citizens. They have appealed to the law but, so far, in vain. This puts it squarely up to all race-loving colored men in Bristow to take the protection of their wives and daughters, sisters and mothers in their own hands and defend them against the fiendish, unscrupulous white hell-hounds who are permitted to commit all manner of crime against them.

If the criminal in such case should happen to be a colored man, both the *Record* and the *Enterprise* would work overtime to get out a special edition, or a full front page write-up, picturing the antics of the "fiendish black brute" and the angelic virtue of his

victim. But in this case they are as silent as a tombstone.

No self-respecting colored man or woman should subscribe for such narrow, prejudiced and unfair papers as these.

Law and order demands that J. R. Middleton, the white rapist of little Emma Charles, a thirteen year old colored girl of Bristow, and the would-be mob-murderer of Daniel Sea, grandfather of the girl who caught him in the act, be punished, and by the eternal gods, if there is any justice in Oklahoma, he must be. The *Star* will not rest until this crime has been avenged!—Tulsa, Okla., *Star*.

In Checotah, Okla., about two years ago, a white woman returned home one evening, very much bruised and injured. She stated to her husband and friends that a "big, burly Negro had mistreated her." The writer was in the town when this happened. Immediately the bloodhounds were brought down from Eufaula, the county seat, and next day a strange Negro, whom no one seemed to know, was lodged in jail and identified by the assaulted woman. Later on in the day another white lady appeared at the sheriff's office and convincingly explained that on the night previous she had caught this woman, who said she had been assaulted and who had even identified her assaulter, with her husband and said she: "I put every bruise and mark on her myself." The strange Negro, who just happened to be bumming through the community, was turned loose. Everything quieted down, but not until almost every one of the humble homes of black folk of that town had been turned upside down in search for a criminal who never existed, except in the heart of a woman who would destroy a human being for pride and a good name. No, that town was not quiet until a gang of hoodlums had been dispersed who had gathered together to lynch an innocent black man.

Last year a poor little black-skinned, nine-year-old girl told a pitiful story of how she had been enticed into a back room of a white shoe maker on his pretense of sending clothes to her mother to be washed. The poor little girl bore unmistakable marks of this brute having carried out his fiendish intentions—but he was white! and she was black—and even though this heinous crime was brought to the attention of the authorities, nobody suffered but the poor little black-skinned daughter of a washerwoman. Truly, the evil thoughts that fell from the lips of Chief Justice Taney years ago live today and the Negro has no rights that the white man will respect. Could any Negro be blamed for trying to shield that poor, helpless, penniless member of the race at Checotah who, but for the frankness and honesty of an enraged wife, would have been lynched?

Does anyone feel that the scales are ever very evenly balanced when the law will wink at white men for the same offense for which white hoodlums "best citizens" instantly feel that they must destroy unconvicted and sometimes innocent black folk?—*Black Dispatch*, Oklahoma City, Okla.

MISCELLANEOUS

BENSON, one of the few post offices in the United States under the management of Negroes, is to go dead June 30, and a rural route, with a white man carrier to be substituted in its place. Benson was founded and named for a Negro, William E. Benson, the leading citizen of a community of one thousand prosperous Negroes. The post office has been doing good work for years, and the present Democratic administration inconveniences these Negroes very much by this change.

Miss Malvenia Chandler graduated from Minneapolis South High School recently. In a class of one hundred and twenty-seven she finished with the first three receiving honorable mention. In appreciation of her scholarly attainments the superintendent of the school had an opportunity of recommending a student to one of the largest milling establishments in the Northwest for a position of stenographer. Without hesitating he recommended her, adding that though she was colored, for ability she outranked any of the other members in her class. The manager of the concern promptly replied, while appreciating her qualifications, he could not give her the position on account of her color; adding not that he cared, but that on account of the other employers. Aside from being a brilliant student, Miss Chandler is an accomplished pianist of an amiable disposition and an obedient daughter.

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